

Regular Meeting

The regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Fitchburg was held in the Memorial Middle School Auditorium, 615 Rollstone St., Fitchburg, on March 6, 2018. The meeting was called to order by President Michael Kushmerek at 7:08 P.M. The Clerk called the roll and eleven (11) Councillors were present. The meeting opened with a salute to the Flag led by Councillor Kaddy.

For the record

Noted for the record:

FATV was recording the audio and video of the meeting.

Elizabeth Dobbins, Sentinel and Enterprise stated that she was recording the meeting.

Public Forum

**PUBLIC FORUM**

Ms. Colby Kazanjian, 183 Madison St. spoke in support of petition 44-18.

Communication

**COMMUNICATION FROM HIS HONOR THE MAYOR**

## Appointment Letters

His Honor the Mayor  
Appointment Letters

1. The following individuals as Student Police Officers; effective April 2, 2018:
  - a. Brian M. Withington
  - b. Sarrah N. Wing
  - c. Mark R. Kaddy
  - d. Hiram J. Velasquez
  - e. Daniella Lopez

*The City of Fitchburg*

FITCHBURG CITY CLERK

*Massachusetts*

2018 FEB 21 AM 9:15

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

**STEPHEN L. DINATALE**  
MAYOR166 BOULDER DRIVE  
FITCHBURG, MA 01420  
TEL. (978) 829-1801**AARON TOURIGNY**  
CHIEF OF STAFF

ATOURIGNY@FITCHBURGMA.GOV

**JOAN DAVID**  
ADMINISTRATIVE AIDE  
JDAVID@FITCHBURGMA.GOV

February 20, 2018

The Honorable City Council  
Fitchburg Municipal Offices  
166 Boulder Drive, Suite 108  
Fitchburg, MA 01420

Dear Honorable Councilors,

I hereby appoint and ask for your confirmation of the following individuals as Student Police Officers for the City of Fitchburg:

Brian M. Withington  
Sarrah N. Wing  
Mark R. Kaddy  
Hiram J. Velasquez  
Daniella Lopez

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Stephen L. Dinatale", is written over a horizontal line.

*City of Fitchburg,* March 6, 2018

2. The following individuals as Permanent Police Sergeant for the City of Fitchburg:
- a. John E. Maki
  - b. Christopher K. Bellofatto

Communication  
Appointment  
Letters  
j



*The City of Fitchburg*  
*Massachusetts*  
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

FITCHBURG CITY CLERK

2018 FEB 21 AM 9:15

STEPHEN L. DINATALE  
MAYOR

166 BOULDER DRIVE  
FITCHBURG, MA 01420  
TEL. (978) 829-1801

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February 20, 2018

The Honorable City Council  
Fitchburg Municipal Offices  
166 Boulder Drive, Suite 108  
Fitchburg, MA 01420

Dear Honorable Councilors,

I hereby appoint and ask for your confirmation of the following individuals as Permanent Police Sergeant for the City of Fitchburg:

John E. Maki  
Christopher K. Bellofatto

Both candidates successfully passed 2017 Promotional exam receiving the top scores. On February 2, 2018 the promotional list became certified for formal promotion.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Stephen L. DiNatale".

Stephen L. DiNatale  
Mayor

Appointments read and referred to the Appointments Committee.

*City of Fitchburg,*

March 6, 2018

Communication  
His Honor the Mayor

Re: CDBG Year 44

**COMMUNICATION FROM HIS HONOR THE MAYOR**

Community Development Block Grant Program Year 44



*The City of Fitchburg*

*Massachusetts*

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

FITCHBURG CITY CLERK  
2018 FEB 28 AM 9:25

**STEPHEN L. DINATALE**  
MAYOR

166 BOULDER DRIVE  
FITCHBURG, MA 01420  
TEL. (978) 829-1801

**AARON TOURIGNY**  
CHIEF OF STAFF

ATOURIGNY@FITCHBURGMA.GOV

**JOAN DAVID**  
ADMINISTRATIVE AIDE  
JDAVID@FITCHBURGMA.GOV

February 28, 2018

President Michael Kushmerek  
Fitchburg City Council  
166 Boulder Drive  
Fitchburg, MA 01420

Dear President Kushmerek:

In consideration of the recommendation of the Planning Board and comments by various citizens regarding the Year 44 Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG), I hereby submit to the City Council the following Year 44 CDBG application for your review. Attached please find Year 44 Estimated Funding, Year 44 Funding Requested and Year 44 Funding Recommended

The Year 44 Consolidated Plan must be submitted to the Department of Housing and Urban Development no later than May 15, 2018 to ensure funds will be available by July 1, 2018. In order to meet the submitted deadline for our Year 44 CDBG program, comments must be received by the City Council's March 20, 2018 meeting.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stephen L. DiNatale", is written over a horizontal line.

Stephen L. DiNatale  
Mayor of Fitchburg

cc: Fitchburg City Council  
Calvin Brooks, City Auditor  
Sue Christensen, Community Development Administrator

**YEAR 44 ESTIMATED FUNDING**

**Estimated CDBG funds available for Year 44 (2018-2019) are as follows:**

Estimated Year 44 Entitlement	***** Amount to be determined
Year 43 Entitlement	\$896,048
Estimated Program Income available from prior years (Misc)	\$ 43,370
Potential Misc. Program Income available in Year 44	\$ 1,500
<b><u>CDBG Housing Revolving Loan Funds:</u></b>	
Anticipated Program Income July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018	\$ 68,686
Anticipated Fund Balance as of June 30, 2018	\$ 75,000
Potential Program Income from July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019	\$ 69,600
<b><u>CDBG Business Revolving Loan Funds:</u></b>	
Anticipated Program Income July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018	\$ 6,000
Anticipated Fund Balance as of June 30, 2018	\$ 6,500
Potential Program Income July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019	\$ 30,571
<b><u>HOME Revolving Loan Funds:</u></b>	
Anticipated Program Income July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018	\$ 72,240
Anticipated Fund Balance as of June 30, 2018	\$150,000
Potential Program Income July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019	\$ 69,600

**\*\*\* This figure may fluctuate pending budget approval by Congress**

Communication  
His Honor the Mayor

Re: CDBG Year 44



Communication  
His Honor the Mayor

Re: CDBG Year 44

**ESTIMATED FUNDS AVAILABLE: \$ 940,918.00**

**CDBG YEAR 44 FUNDING REQUESTED**

PUBLIC FACILITIES AND IMPROVEMENTS (6)	\$ 173,799.00
PUBLIC SERVICES (8)	\$ 291,000.00
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (3)	\$ 157,500.00
REHABILITATION AND PRESERVATION (4)	\$ 317,000.00
CLEARANCE ACTIVITIES (1)	\$ 250,000.00
PLANNING AND ADMINISTRATION (1)	\$ 182,000.00
<b>TOTAL YEAR 44 FUNDING REQUESTS (23)</b>	<b>\$ 1,371,299.00</b>

**CDBG YEAR 44 FUNDING RECOMMENDED**

PUBLIC FACILITIES AND IMPROVEMENTS (5)	\$ 137,000.00
PUBLIC SERVICES (6)	\$ 132,000.00
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (2)	\$ 108,250.00
REHABILITATION AND PRESERVATION (2)	\$ 120,000.00
CLEARANCE ACTIVITIES (1)	\$ 264,668.00
PLANNING AND ADMINISTRATION (1)	\$ 179,000.00
<b>TOTAL YEAR 44 FUNDING RECOMMENDED (17)</b>	<b>\$ 940,918.00</b>

**YEAR 44 PROPOSALS**

**PUBLIC FACILITIES AND IMPROVEMENTS**

**Sidewalk Accessibility  
Improvements**

**City of Fitchburg  
Disability Commission**

**\$5,000.**

Project funds will be used to bring city sidewalks into compliance with ADA requirements. The project involves adding/improving crosswalks and removal of curbs that are obstructing universal access along Water Street, including Water Street at Spruce Street; 350 Water near Fitchburg Green; Water at Boyle Court; and Water at Fifth Street. Also the Senior Center area – Wallace Ave., Elm Street, Grove Street. Approximately 20 architectural barriers will be removed. Work will be performed by the DPW to ADA standards.

**Goodrich Playground  
Project**

**Board of Parks Commissioners**

**\$45,000.**

Project funds will be used to remove existing fencing surrounding the upper athletic facilities at Goodrich Playground and the demolition of the long deteriorating tennis courts. This will be followed by leveling and installation of loam within the confines of the old tennis courts and outfield for use as a multipurpose field and the installation of new fencing and backstops on the old baseball field as well as clay of the infield. Work will be performed by the DPW and will be ADA compliant

**Crocker Field Grandstand  
Wall Restoration**

**City of Fitchburg School  
Department**

**\$8,000.**

Project funds will be used to remove and replace three (3) sections of wall; each section in 43" high x 30 feet long located at the front row of seats in Sections 10, 11 and 12 of the open grandstands. This wall is currently structurally unsound, according to a Registered Professional Structural Engineer, creating a safety hazard. Funding provided by CDBG will be matched equally by the School Department. Fitchburg DPW will perform design work and develop technical specifications.

**Streetscape Improvements**

**Community Development**

**\$74,526.**

Project funds will be used to design, install or replace sidewalks, curb-cuts, fencing, lighting, plantings or other streetscape or accessibility improvements along City Gateways, North of Main or other strategic locations. Funds may support or be used as a match for other funding under the city's Complete Streets program or be used to apply and provide design or match for the next round of MassWorks Public Infrastructure grant program.

**Handicapped Accessibility  
Improvements**

**Fitchburg Historical  
Society**

**\$4,474.**

Project funds will be used to address obstacles to ADA accessibility. Handicapped elevator improvements in elevator control room; new exterior lighting at handicapped parking/entrance; newly painted symbols and lines on handicapped parking spaces and new track lighting fixtures for brighter light in public exhibition and program area. Work will be ADA compliant.

**5 Proposals - \$137,000.**

Communication  
His Honor the Mayor

Re: CDBG Year 44

**PUBLIC SERVICES**

**Street Homeless  
Intervention Program**

**Our Father's House**

**\$28,000.**

Summary: Project funds will be used to pay staff salary for a 20 hour per week Street Outreach Worker solely dedicated to the homeless within the City of Fitchburg. Connections to health and social services, mental health and addiction services will be offered along with food, clothing blankets and human contact. Will work with Fitchburg PD and FD. In addition, \$8,000. would be available to pay for a chronically homeless persons first month's rent only or one-time payment in order to enable individuals to acquire and live in permanent housing and off the streets.

**Building Empowered  
Youth & Families**

**MOC as management  
company of United  
Neighbors of Fitchburg, Inc.**

**\$10,000.**

Project funds will be used to provide, information and referral, food pantry and bi-lingual services to at United Neighbors of Fitchburg facility. Youth programs will be offered including after-school programs for teens and kids and Teen Night programs incorporating homework help; recreation and-exercise programs; leadership development and civic engagement. Funds will partially pay for staff salaries for Program Director, Afterschool Coordinator, Afterschool program assistant and Administrative support as well as buildings and equipment. It is estimated that 110 (unduplicated count) will be served.

**Spartacus Program**

**Montachusett Regional YMCA**

**\$10,000.**

Project funds will be used to support staff salary of the Teen Center Spartacus Program, offering services to at-risk youth between the ages of 13 and 18 who live in Fitchburg. Emphasis will be on Youth Development, Healthy Living and Social Responsibility through physical fitness, team building, life skills training and outdoor activities. It is estimated that 60 youth (unduplicated count) will be served between September and June.

**Drug Enforcement  
Patrol Program**

**Fitchburg Police Dept.**

**\$60,000.**

Project funds will be used to provide for police overtime expenses related to drug investigation activities in the CDBG Strategy Area and foot/motorcycle/bicycle patrols in targeted CDBG areas. Police activities include narcotics investigations, surveillance, undercover buys, search warrant services and arrests. CDBG funds will be used by the Drug Suppression Unit to conduct thorough investigations on mid to high level dealers in the City of Fitchburg, particularly targeting the heroin and opioid market in designated CDBG areas.

**Transportation Services  
to Afterschool Program,  
Project Learn STEAM**

**Boys & Girls Club  
of Fitchburg and Leominster**

**\$16,000.**

Project funds will be used to provide one-way transportation from Fitchburg schools to the Boys and Girls Club Afterschool Program located at 365 Lindell Street in Leominster. The Fitchburg schools include: Memorial, South Street, Reingold, Crocker, McKay, Longsjo, Sizer and Fitchburg High School. It is estimated that approximately 1,440 transportation trips will be provided and 300 Fitchburg youth (unduplicated) served.

**MIHN Family Housing/  
Family Pathways Project**

**Montachusett Interfaith  
Hospitality Network**

**\$8,000.**

Project funds will provide emergency housing for homeless families in North Worcester County, including case management and follow up services. It is estimated MIHN will screen at least 250 referrals during the year, and will continue to try to meet the goal of serving 30 Fitchburg residents (unduplicated count) in the shelter and emergency services. The CDBG funds will be used to partially pay for the MIHN Operations Manager salary costs.

**6 Proposals - \$132,000.**

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

**Small Business  
Technical Assistance  
Program**

**NewVue Communities**

**\$21,000.**

Project funds will provide outreach and technical assistance to businesses. This program leverages loans for small businesses. It is estimated that 40 businesses will be served (unduplicated count), 65 jobs will be created/retained, 43 businesses will be counseled, 4 loans with a value of \$100,000 total will be facilitated and 26 business plans developed. Funds will be used to pay staff salary.

**CDBG Business Loans  
and Grants**

**Fitchburg Comm Development  
Department**

**\$87,250.**

Summary: Program funds will provide grant incentives for building owners with prospective tenants in the Main Street commercial district to encourage accessibility improvements such as elevators or lifts and code improvements including sprinkler systems, grease traps, venting and other missing elements required by code for the proposed use.al district to encourage accessibility improvements such as elevators or lifts. It is estimated that 3-5 businesses (unduplicated count) will be served; 2-6 full time equivalent jobs will be created and 1-2 units will be made handicapped accessible

**2 Proposals - \$108,250.**

**REHABILITATION AND PRESERVATION**

**Code Enforcement**

**Fitchburg BOH**

**\$100,000.**

Project funds will be used to pay 100% of two existing full-time BOH Inspector positions and 50% of one full-time Clerk position. Through the enforcement of the State's Sanitary and Building Codes, Fitchburg's housing stock will be greatly improved. To be eligible, this activity must be part of a comprehensive strategy to arrest deterioration, including housing rehab and demolition. It is estimated that 1,000 housing units (duplicated count) will be inspected in the CDBG strategy area.

**IdeaLab Build Out**

**Fitchburg State University**

**\$20,000.**

Project funds will be used to support the build out of the IdeaLab located in the Historic Theater Block of Main Street. In partnership with NewVue Communities and the City of Fitchburg, Fitchburg State University has developed a plan to jump-start the local economy by sparking entrepreneurial activity in the heart of downtown Fitchburg. Part of phase one, the IdeaLab consists of approximately 2,000 square feet of flexible space that will be used to launch small businesses by providing them with flexible, affordable, state-of-the-art commercial space as well as on-site technical assistance provided by NewVue Communities. CDBG funding will support critical needs including finishes, tel/data wiring, shared business equipment and shared workstations.

**2 Proposals - \$120,000.**

Communication  
His Honor the Mayor

Re: CDBG Year 44

**CLEARANCE ACTIVITIES**

**Demolition**

**Fitchburg Community  
Development Department**

**\$264,668.**

Project funds will be used to remove abandoned structures which pose an imminent threat to public safety and which contribute to slums and blight. The entire City will be served but the principal benefit will accrue to the CDBG Strategy Area in which the proposed activities will take place. It is estimated that 7 buildings containing up to 21 units will be demolished. Consultants will be hired for specific expertise such as environmental assessment or engineering services.

**1 Proposal - \$264,668.**

**PLANNING AND ADMINISTRATION**

**CDBG Administration**

**Fitchburg Community  
Development Department**

**\$179,000.**

Project funds will provide for the necessary administration of CDBG programs and sub-recipient contracts in accordance with federal guidelines, including staffing, technical services and planning activities. This also includes the cost of various activities such as the Consolidated Plan; Consolidated Annual Performance Report; Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing and other strategic plans and services. These funds enable the City to apply for, receive and administer additional federal and state grants. In the previous year, \$8,640,178.00 dollars in related grants were obtained.

**1 Proposal - \$179,000.**

Communication read and referred to the Finance Committee.

City of Fitchburg,

March 6, 2018

Communication  
Pension Reserves  
Investments  
Management Board

COMMUNICATION

Pension Reserves Investment Management Board

Pension Reserves Investment Management Board

84 State Street, Suite 250  
Boston, Massachusetts 02109

Fitchburg Retirement System

General Allocation Account

January 01, 2018 to January 31, 2018

Deborah B. Goldberg, Treasurer and Receiver General, Chair

Michael G. Trosky, CFA, Executive Director



Your beginning net asset value for the period was:  
Your change in investment value for the period was:  
Your exchanges from (to) the Cash Fund for the period were:  
Your ending net asset value for the period was:

Month To Date	Fiscal Year To Date	Calendar Year To Date
119,575,030.82	105,663,577.51	119,575,030.82
3,242,591.88	12,049,961.38	3,242,591.88
(1,000,000.00)	4,104,083.81	(1,000,000.00)
121,817,622.70	121,817,622.70	121,817,622.70

Net Change in Investment Value represents the net change through investment activities as follows:

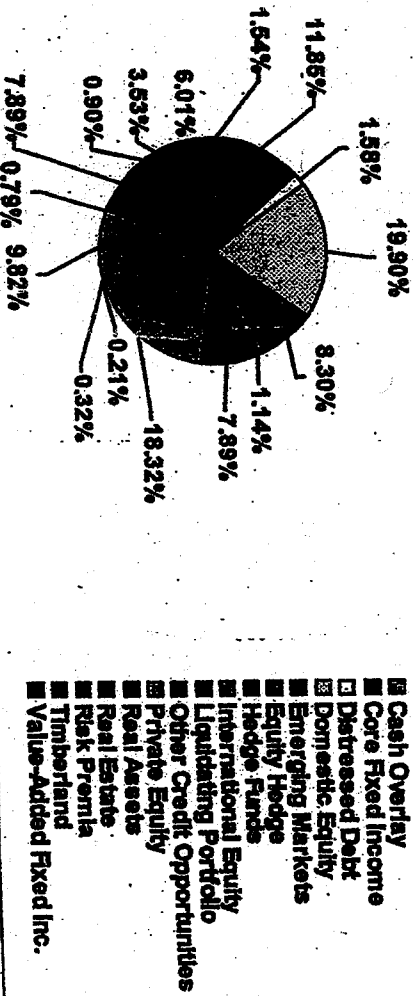
Gross Investment Income:	130,209.35	1,567,297.30	130,209.35
Less Management Fees:	(20,278.69)	(313,502.16)	(20,278.69)
Net Investment Income:	109,930.66	1,253,795.14	109,930.66
Net Fund Unrealized Gains/Losses:	2,437,872.22	7,359,626.40	2,437,872.22
Net Fund Realized Gains/Losses:	694,789.00	3,436,339.84	694,789.00
Net Change in Investment Value as Above:	3,242,591.88	12,049,961.38	3,242,591.88

As of January 31, 2018 the net asset value of your investment in the PRIT Fund was:

\$121,817,622.70

PRIT Fund Core Asset Allocation

As of January 31, 2018



If you have any questions regarding your statement, please contact your Senior Client Services Officer Paul Todisco (617) 946-8423. A detailed statement of your account is attached to this summary sheet.

Communication read and placed on file in the City Clerk's Office.

*City of Fitchburg,*

March 6, 2018

Annual Report  
Fitchburg Fire  
Department  
Year 2017

**ANNUAL REPORT**

042-18. ANNUAL REPORT: Fitchburg Fire Department for the year 2017.



**Kevin D. Roy**  
**Chief of Fire Department**

February 28, 2018

**City of Fitchburg, Massachusetts**  
**FIRE DEPARTMENT**

33 North Street  
Fitchburg, MA 01420

978-345-9666  
FAX: 978-345-9589

Anna Farrell  
City Clerk  
166 Boulder Dr  
Fitchburg, MA 01420

RE: Fire Department 2017 Annual Report

Ms. Farrell,

Enclosed please find three printed copies of the 148<sup>th</sup> Annual Fire Report and 11 digital CD copies.

Chief Roy requests the report be distributed to the City Council members.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact our office.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Melissa Ahola".

Melissa Ahola  
Fire Prevention Clerk

2018 FEB 28 AM 11:40

PROBATION CITY CLERK



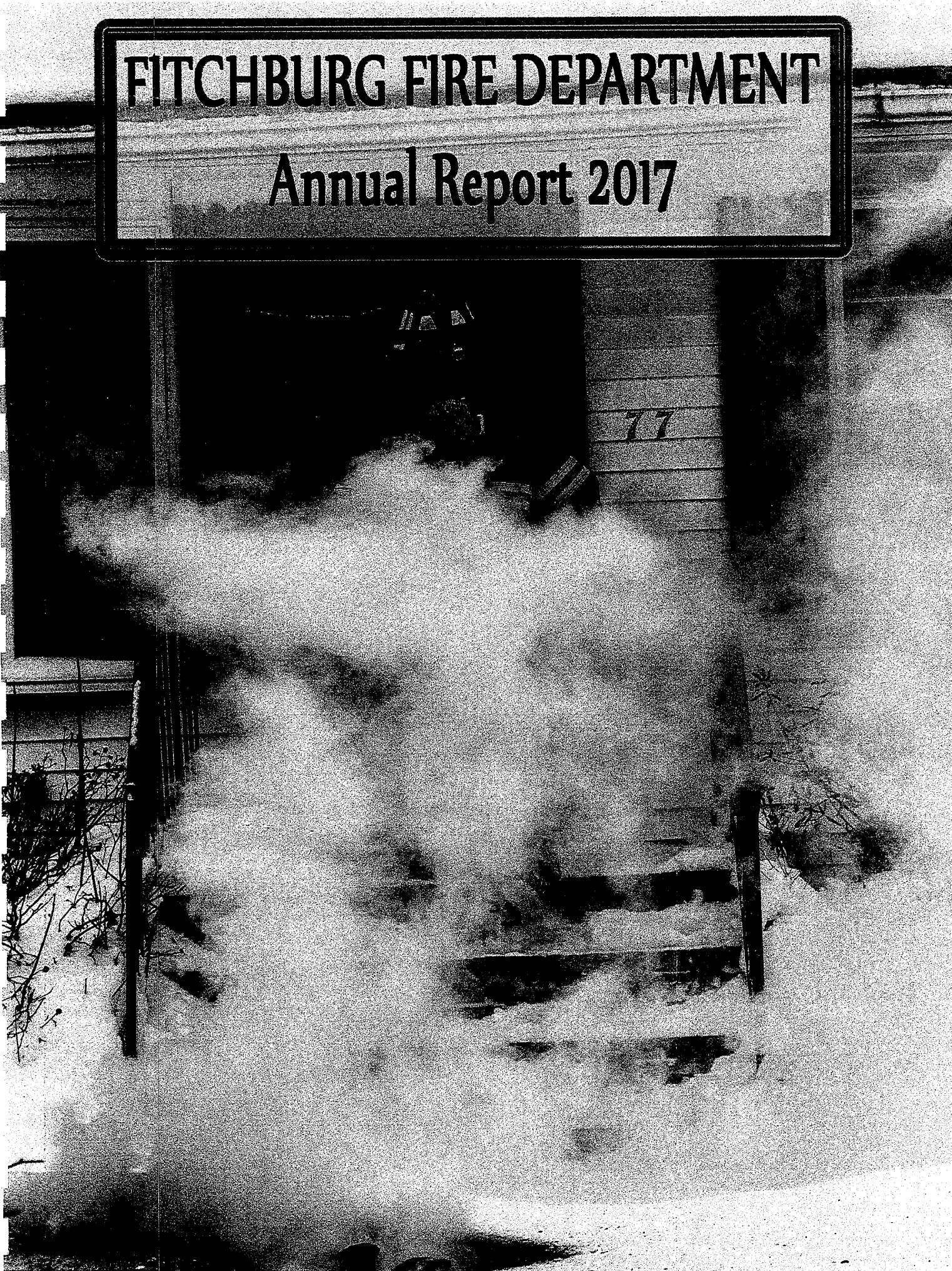
*City of Fitchburg,*

March 6, 2018

Annual Report  
Fitchburg Fire  
Department  
Yesr 2017

# FITCHBURG FIRE DEPARTMENT

## Annual Report 2017





Annual Report  
Fitchburg Fire  
Department  
Year 2017

This report provides information in the following areas from the respective supervisors.

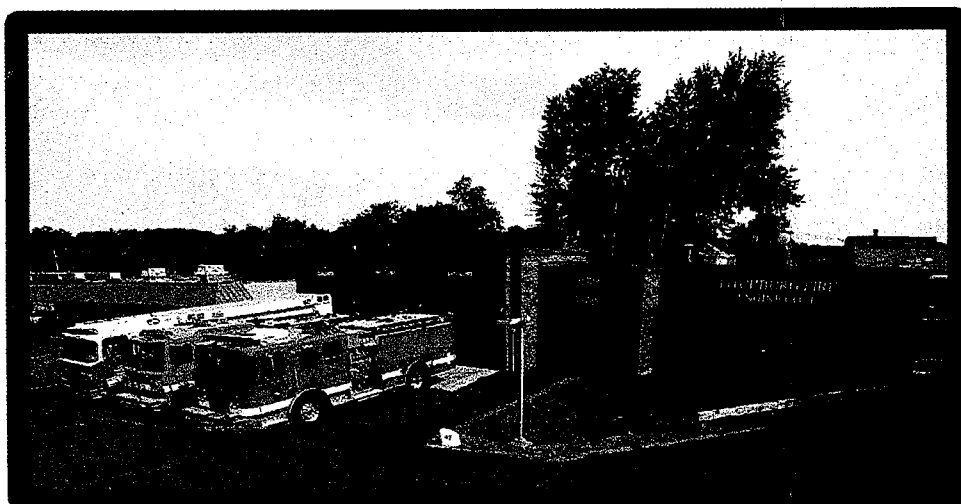
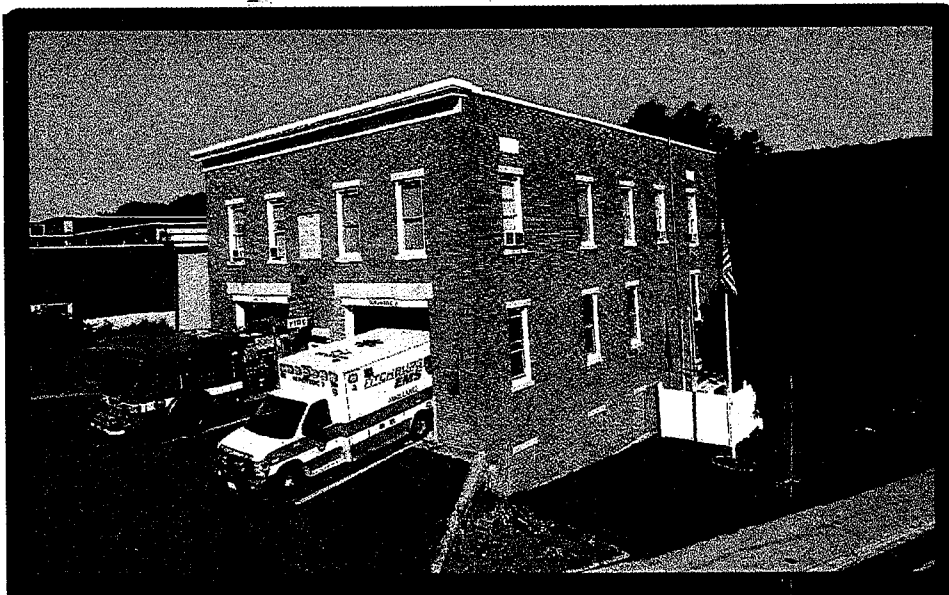
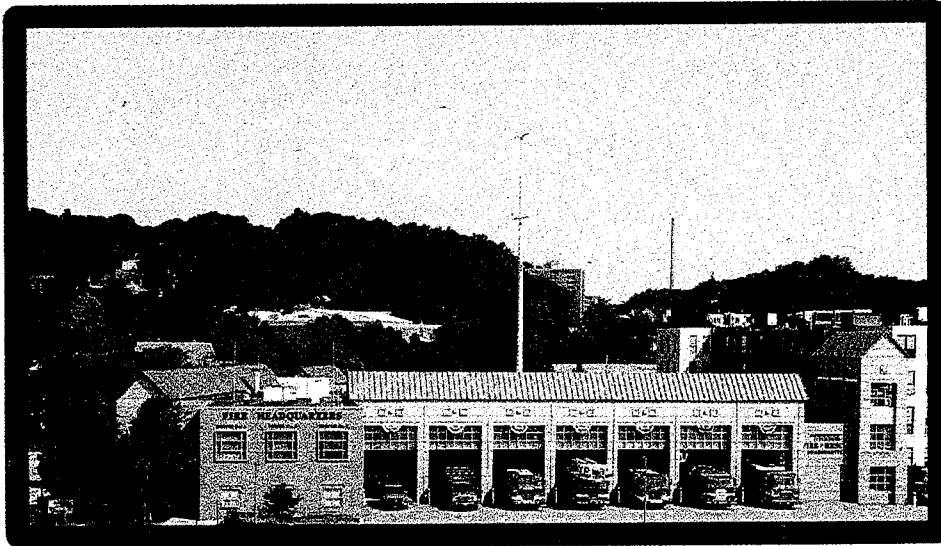
- |                                     |   |                                         |
|-------------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------------|
| 1. General Statement                | - | Chief Kevin D. Roy                      |
| 2. Fire Prevention                  | - | Director Lieutenant Philip Jordan       |
| 3. Insurance & Claims               | - | Director Lieutenant Philip Jordan       |
| 4. Training Division                | - | Lieutenant Richard Liberatore           |
| 5. Emergency Management             | - | Lieutenant Richard Liberatore           |
| 6. Personnel                        | - | Deputy Chief Thomas Dateo               |
| 7. Buildings, Grounds & Furnishings | - | Deputy Chief David Gravel               |
| 8. Emergency Medical Service        | - | Captain Chad Courtemanche               |
| 9. Fire Alarm & Communications      | - | Lieutenant Rick Jollimore / David Monty |
| 10. Firefighting Apparatus          | - | Deputy Chief Mitch Pinault              |
| 11. Firefighting Equipment          | - | Captain Brian Murchie                   |
| 12. Maintenance of Apparatus        | - | Master Mechanic Nate Oliver             |
| 13. Scuba/ Tech Rescue              | - | Captain Anthony Marrama                 |
| 14. S.C.B.A. / Inspections          | - | Deputy Chief Gregg Normandin            |
| 15. SAFE Program                    | - | Lieutenant Philip Jordan                |
| 16. HAZ-MAT                         | - | Captain Rob Alicea                      |

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## FITCHBURG FIRE DEPARTMENT MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Fitchburg Fire Department isto protect people, property and the enviroment by providing essential emergency and non-emergency services professionally with pride and dedication.



Annual Report  
Fitchburg Fire  
Department  
Year 2017

# **FITCHBURG FIRE DEPARTMENT**

## **Report of the Chief**

### **Chief Kevin D. Roy**



PHOTO BY: DAVE BRYCE

**Crews made a quick knock down at  
this fire on Dover Street on November  
15th, 2017**

## **148<sup>th</sup> Annual Report Fitchburg Fire Department 2017**

I respectfully submit the 148<sup>th</sup> Annual Report of the Fitchburg Fire Department. This report recaps the year in 2017, and provides insight into the vital services and great work provided by the Fitchburg Fire / EMS/Emergency Management Services.

Once again “emergency calls for service” increased by 3%. The number of “working fires” increased by 10, but our “multiple alarm fires” (large fires) decreased from 8 in 2016, to 4 in 2017. This is due to increased staffing, training, and efficient, rapid firefighting efforts.

We ask that you please read the complete report to understand the excellent “emergency services” provided by our 84 employees, who work 24/7, 365 days a year to keep the citizens of Fitchburg and the surrounding communities safe.

The following are a few of our many accomplishments in 2017.

- Awarded another FEMA, S.A.F.E.R Grant to hire 2 additional firefighters. This has allowed us to maintain a minimum of 17 firefighters on duty 10 months of the year. This is the minimum number of firefighters we need on duty all year round to protect our citizens and our firefighters.
- We purchased two new support vehicles for Fire Prevention and the Maintenance Division.
- New “SCBA” air compressor, replaces a 29 year old unit. This compressor is used to provide air for our air packs used at all fire situations and air tanks for our underwater Dive Team.
- Money appropriated by Mayor DiNatale to replace all “extrication” equipment in our department. Some of this equipment was purchased in the 1970’s. This \$184,000.00 worth of tools gives our department the most current, up to date equipment possible, for entrapment situations.
- A new phone system for our department was installed in 2017. This replaces an antiquated, over, 25 year old system.
- Through the efforts of Lieutenant Patrick Roy more than \$28,000.00 was raised by “public donation” for the purchase of 3 “turnout gear” dryers. These dryers will help greatly in getting the firefighters gear back in service after washing the gear to prevent carcinogens from contamination, of their personal protection gear.
- Fire Prevention and Training/Emergency Management Divisions. With over 30,000 hours of training by our members last year, and the continued expansion of our “Tech Rescue”, Active Shooter/Hostile Event, and Haz-mat Training by our Training Division, our department continues to progressively move forward in addressing the latest risks to our citizens and firefighters.

In addition, our Fire Prevention Division works diligently in “Fire Safety Education”, “Fire Prevention”, “Arson Investigation”, and continues working with other city departments to improve the quality of life for the people of Fitchburg.

Annual Report  
Fitchburg Fire  
Department  
Year 2017

### Looking to the Future

- Once again in 2018, the Fitchburg Fire Department will strive to maintain a safe minimum staffing 24hrs/day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year.
- A top priority will be to replace Engine 2 at the Oak Hill Station. This will result in retiring Engine 3, which is 31 years old.
- A 3-5 year goal for the department is to start serious planning for the much needed replacement of our outdated substations. The Cleghorn Station, which is 117 years old, and the Summer Street Station, which is 60 years old, are both inadequate for today's firefighting apparatus. These stations also need to be relocated and brought up to current building codes.

Again, thank you to Mayor DiNatale, and his staff, as well as the City Council for their continued support of the Fitchburg Fire Department throughout 2017.

As always, thanks to all our dedicated staff at the Fitchburg Fire Department for their hard work that saves dozens of lives each year, and saves well over 60 million dollars in property annually, in the City of Fitchburg.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kevin D. Roy  
Chief of Department

**FITCHBURG FIRE DEPARTMENT**  
**Fire Prevention Bureau**  
**Lt. Philip Jordan**



PHOTO BY: DAVE BRYCE

**An electrical fire starting in the  
basement spread quickly to the upper  
floors of this house on Roosevelt Street  
on May 30th 2017**

Annual Report  
Fitchburg Fire  
Department  
Year 2017

## **FIRE PREVENTION**

### **Annual Report 2017**

#### **FIRE PREVENTION MONTH**

The theme for Fire Prevention month was "Every Second Counts: Plan 2 Ways Out"! The program was presented to 12 public/private elementary school classes in the City of Fitchburg. We showed a privately made Fire Safety video followed by "The Friendly Fireman" music track.

In addition, a General Fire safety program was delivered to (2) elderly complexes. According to MFIRS 2013 statistics for Worcester County, cooking fires caused 60% of reported home fires, heating appliances caused 22% of home fires, 3% of home fires were electrical in nature. Unattended cooking fires is the leading contributing factor for kitchen fires.

With education and public awareness, Fire Prevention hopes to reduce the number of kitchen fires within the city of Fitchburg.

#### **FIRE SAFE & SENIOR SAFE PROGRAM**

The Fitchburg Fire S.A.F.E Program has worked in conjunction with the Fire Prevention Bureau to visit 6 schools with (20) Fire Prevention classes. They also gave (20) Safety classes in the Fire Safety Trailer and (4) additional community events. Senior community events totaled (7) and children community events totaled (4).

The Fire Phil program was assisted by the Fire SAFE instructors. This program visited 6 schools with an additional (10) fire safety (assembly) presentations given as a puppet and magic show.

The Fitchburg Fire S.A.F.E Senior grant provided (2) fire safety classes to the seniors in the area. The S.A.F.E instructors focused on the "High Rise" complexes with a general fire safety class including Exit plans/ Shelter in place for the "High Rise" facility. We performed (7) additional Community events under this Grant as they were better attended than some of the Fire Safety classes at the "High Rise" facilities.

#### **TRAINING AND EDUCATION**

The fire inspectors/investigators assigned to the Fire Prevention Bureau continue to attend monthly Fire Prevention and quarterly fire investigation seminars for continuing education and training. The Fire Prevention Officer certification which requires many hours of continuing education to maintain. Firefighter Scott Peralta and I attended the Arson training (3) day class at the Cape instructing us on Clandestine drug labs. Inspector Peralta will be looking toward the State Arson Investigation class coming up.

I currently hold a Fire Arson training certificate for both the basic certification class as well as the advanced class. Both Scott and I attend the State MA Arson Investigators classes and seminars on a regular basis to keep up our training. This year conference was revolved around Clandestine drug labs.

**OVERVIEW**

The Fire Prevention bureau issued 1,185 permits and collected \$55,322.00 in revenue.

The Fire Prevention bureau clerk has remained at part time due to past budget cuts and there is a need to increase the hours to full time. The fire inspectors and the Chiefs' administrative assistant have taken on a number of Fire Prevention clerical duties to maintain a functioning office. When personnel are out of the office there is often no coverage for the telephones/desk to assist the public and staff. As other offices in the city increase their staff levels to previous levels, it is only equitable that the Fire Prevention bureau be funded for the previously held full time position as well.

Respectfully submitted,

Lt. Phil Jordan



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**FIRE PREVENTION INSPECTIONS  
2017**

**\*\*CODE COMPLIANCE INSPECTIONS\*\***

**FIRE SUPPRESSION PERSONNEL**

Mercantile/Industrial/Commercial	423
Public/Private School Quarterly	130

**TOTAL FIRE PERSONNEL INSPECTIONS 553**

**FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU - (Inspections for permit)**

Haz-Mat Storage	4
LP Permits	48
Range Hood / Suppression System	5
Residential (Smoke Detector / CO)	601
Residential (Smoke Detector / CO) - FAIL	187
Report Copy / 21 E	50
Cutting / Welding	23
Flammable Combustible/ Liquid Storage	29
Blasting / Explosives	2
Miscellaneous	2
Tank Truck	13
UST Tank Removals	45
Oil Burner/UST/AST	136
Vent-less Gas Heater	1
Fire Alarm Systems	8
Fire Sprinkler Systems	14
Nonsufficient Funds	1
Annual Inspection	0
General Inspection	16

**TOTAL INSPECTIONS – (for permit) 1,185**

**Est. Income from Fees- \$ 55,322.00**

**\*\*FIRE INVESTIGATION UNIT\*\***  
**Fire Investigations 2017**

<u>REPORT</u>	<u>FOR</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>PROBABLE CAUSE</u>
17-35	Building Fire	01/04/2017	1050 Westminster St	Sparks from Finishing
17-201	Building Fire	01/16/2017	62 Sheridan Street	Candles
17-339	Building Fire	01/26/2017	21/23 West Street	Smoking
17-479	Building Fire	02/06/2017	20 Davis Street	Ash Disposal
17-1211	Building Fire	03/27/2017	433 Princeton Rd	Smoking/careless disposal
17-1505	Building Fire	04/22/2017	27 Burnap Street	Electrical
17-1638	Car Fire	05/02/2017	198 Fairmount	Suspicious/ Car fire to building
17-1665	Building Fire	05/04/2017	41 Myrtle St	Child / Fireplay lighter
17-1720	Building Fire	05/08/2017	76 Heywood	Undetermined
17-1759	Building Fire	05/11/2017	45 Walnut Street	Electrical fire
17-1997	Building Fire	05/30/2017	87 Roosevelt St	Electrical fire
17-2249	Building Fire	06/18/2017	150 Elm Street	Electrical fire
17-2283	Building Fire	06/20/2017	46 Myrtle Ave	Attempted Arson
17-2549	Building Fire	07/11/2017	59 Columbus	Careless disposal
17-2646	Building Fire	07/18/2017	26 Hartford Street	Careless disposal
17-2815	Building Fire	07/30/2017	547 Westminster Hill Rd	Careless disposal
17-2845	Car Fire	08/01/2017	1 Stanley St	Arson / 2 car fire
17-3080	Car Fire	08/18/2017	333 Albee Street	Arson / 2 car fire
17-3373	Building Fire	09/07/2017	7 Weymouth Street	Electrical Surge
17-3681	Building Fire	09/28/2017	33 Goddard Street	Child / Fireplay lighter
17-3686	Building Fire	09/29/2017	33 Cottage Street	Careless disposal
17-3971	Building Fire	10/19/2017	63 Marion	Electrical
17-4296	Building Fire	11/11/2017	8 Day street	Arson
17-4298	Building Fire	11/11/2017	21 Redman Place	Undetermined
17-4487	Building Fire	11/28/2017	36 Valley Street	Arson/suicide
17-4543	Building Fire	12/2/2017	50 Franklin Street	Arson Vacant Dwelling

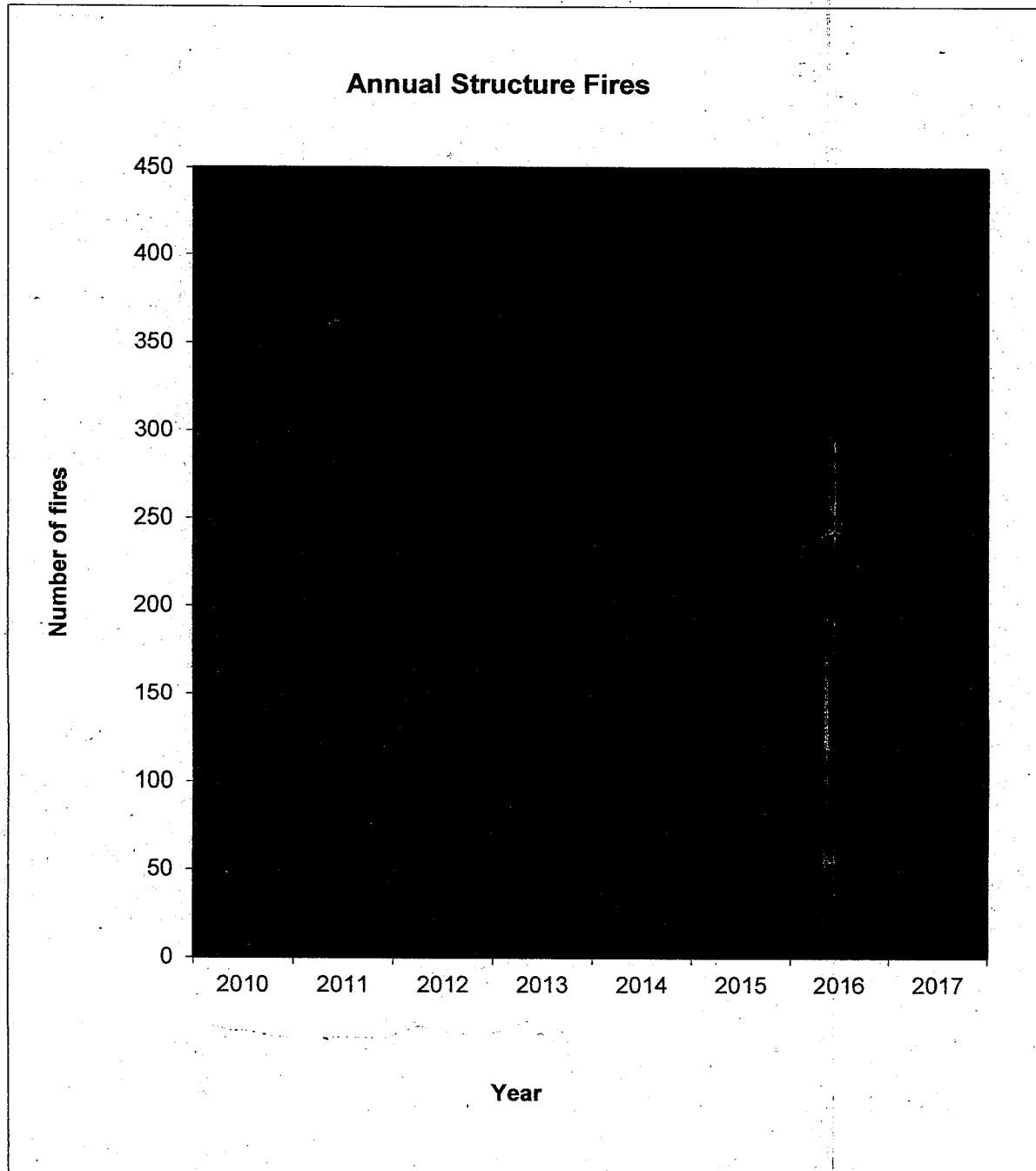
**TOTAL FIRE INVESTIGATIONS = 26****Civilian Injuries - (2)****Fatalities - (1)****FFD Investigators:** Lt. Phil Jordan, Pvt. Richard Jollimore, Pvt. Scott Peralta**FPD Investigators:** Lt.Det.Tim Mcdermott, Det. Dave Daigle, Det.Rodney Conrad  
Det.Paul Mcnamara, Det.Tabatha Pepples**\*\*MSFM Investigators:** Trp. Greg Spahl, Trp. Dave Fleming,  
Trp. Dan Reopel, Trp.Matt Faffard, Trp. Dan Richard

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**Compiled by the State Fire Marshal Office – Breakdown of incidents**

100	Fire, other	3	0	0	0	0	\$ 1,300
111	Building fires	42	0	2	0	1	\$ 709,750
113	Cooking fire, confined to container	341	0	0	0	0	\$ 1,500
114	Chimney or flue fire, confined to chimney or flue	5	0	0	0	0	\$ 2,000
116	Fuel burner/boiler malfunction, fire confined	12	0	0	0	0	\$ -
118	Trash or rubbish fire, contained	6	0	0	0	0	\$ -
130	Mobile property (vehicle) fire, other	1	0	0	0	0	\$ 14,000
131	Passenger vehicle fire	13	0	0	0	0	\$ 54,298
138	Off-road vehicle or heavy equipment fire	1	0	0	0	0	\$ 10,000
140	Natural vegetation fire, other	14	0	0	0	0	\$ -
142	Brush, or brush and grass mixture fire	9	0	0	0	0	\$ -
150	Outside rubbish fire, other	5	0	0	0	0	\$ -
151	Outside rubbish, trash or waste fire	4	0	0	0	0	\$ -
162	Outside equipment fire	2	0	0	0	0	\$ 700
Total 2017		458	0	2	0	1	\$ 793,548

Structure Fires	406	0	2	0	1	\$ 713,250
MV Fires	15	0	0	0	0	\$ 78,298
Outside & Other Fires	37	0	0	0	0	\$ 2,000
Total 2017	458	0	2	0	1	\$ 793,548



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**FITCHBURG FIRE DEPARTMENT**  
**Insurance & Claims**  
**Lt. Philip Jordan**

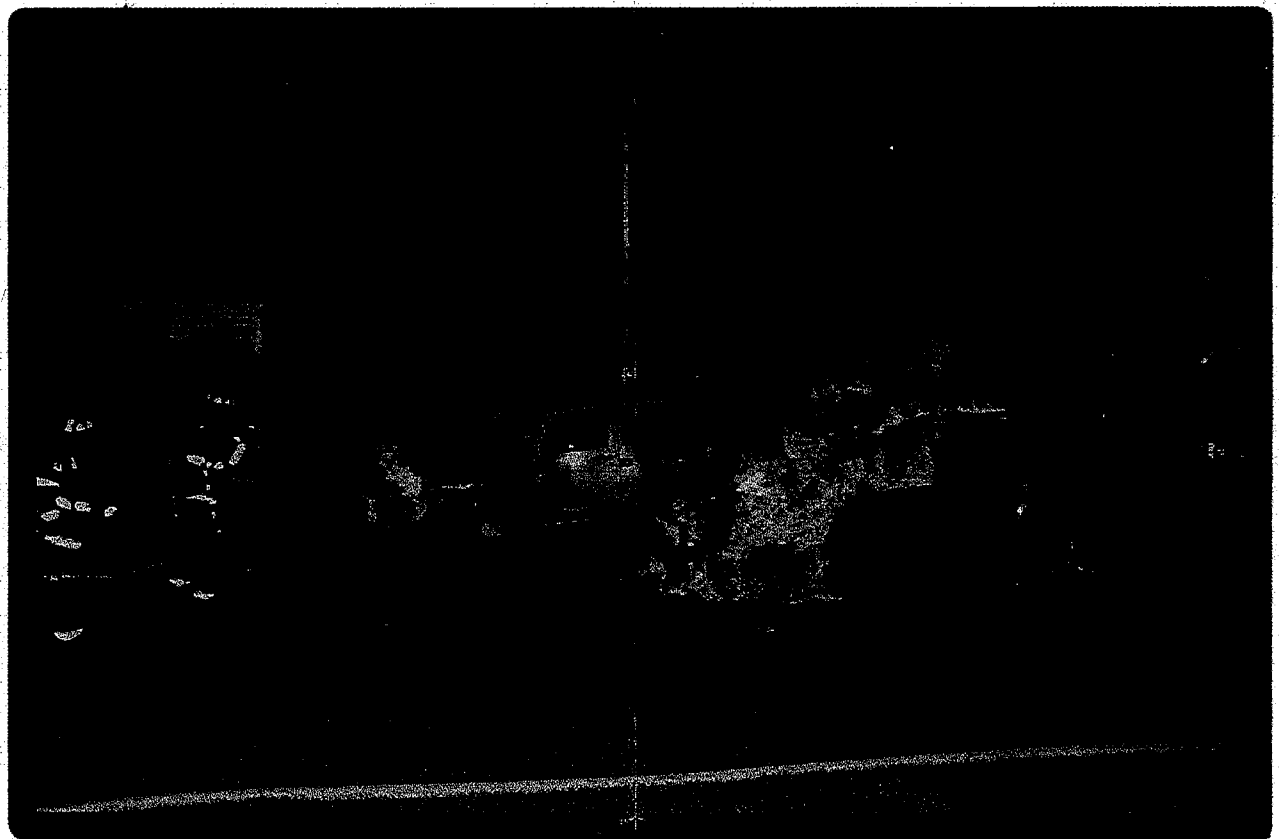


PHOTO BY: DAVE BRYCE

**These car fires on Albee Street were  
determined to be arson and Fitchburg  
Fire, Fitchburg Police along with the MA  
State Police are still investigating the  
this case, August 18th 2017**

## LOSS, INSURANCE AND VALUATION REPORT FOR 2017

### BUILDING FIRES

ASSESSED BUILDING VALUES	\$ 51,837,100.00
ESTIMATED PROPERTY LOSS	\$ 651,900.0
FITCHBURG FIRE (SAVE- ESTIMATES) FOR TOTAL PROPERTY LOSS	\$ 51,185,200.00

### BUILDING CONTENTS

ESTIMATED CONTENTS VALUES	\$ 9,048,102.00
ESTIMATED CONTENTS LOST	\$ 81,050.00
FITCHBURG FIRE (SAVE- ESTIMATES) FOR TOTAL CONTENT LOSS	\$ 8,967,052.00

The Assessed Building Value indicates the value compiled by the Assessor's office and is lower than the actual market value of the house or building, but it would be too difficult for us to estimate what a particular house or building is worth in the ever changing housing market. The figures above are based on 48 substantial building fires with a dollar loss.

The Building Contents Loss isn't completely accurate because in many of the cases, the damage can run farther and deeper than what the human eye can perceive. It also does not calculate the time and expense of boarding properties up after a major fire. The firefighters and investigators do their best to estimate the losses they can see, but the cost of demolition, permits, and re-construction will probably be much higher. The figures reflected above are based on content loss from as a result from the 48 substantial building fires.

### **(14) VEHICLE FIRES – with loss**

*(FITCHBURG) ESTIMATED VEHICLE VALUE	\$ 222,398.00
*(FITCHBURG) ESTIMATED VEHICLE LOSS	\$ 89,498.00
*(FITCHBURG) ESTIMATED CONTENTS LOSS	\$ 12,700.00
(FITCHBURG FIRE) VEHICLE/CONTENTS	\$ 102,198.00
(SAVE- ESTIMATES) FOR VEHICLE/CONTENTS FIRE LOSS	\$ 120,200.00

Fitchburg fire responded to 16 vehicle fires of varying degrees of loss. With the varying degree of vehicles and values of vehicles climbing into the 40 thousand range, I can only make a fair estimate. (ESTIMATED VEHICLE LOSS / 16 VEHICLE FIRES w-loss = VEHICLE FIRE LOSS AVERAGE). The Fire loss average for 2017 per vehicle would be \$ 6100.00. For some fires this may be a high estimate but on others, the fire had involved multiple vehicles adding to the loss exponentially. This also should take into effect indirect losses, such as belongings, time loss from work, and replacement transportation costs.

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**\*Vehicle loss figure taken from NFPA (vehicle fires) 2007-2011 - \$1.4 Billion dollars loss for vehicle fires / 229,500 vehicles = \$ 6100.00**

**National Average was (16) x \$ 6,100.00 = \$ 97,600.00. Fitchburg Fire ESTIMATES were \$ 89,498.00.**

These figures also do not take into account the indirect losses that result from fires that occur in businesses. Business closures will create lost wages and jobs, business interruptions and the possibility that the business may relocate outside the city. Fires in private dwellings result in the loss of irreplaceable family mementoes, place a burden on the Red Cross and other agencies to find shelter and clothing for the fire victims and cause financial hardships for many residents affected by the fires. In a financially repressed time, with costs on the rise, many renters are struggling to make ends meet and can't afford renters insurance. When we come across these fires, losses are non-recoverable due to lack of insurance. There is also the loss of valuable tax dollars to the city when a building is destroyed by fire. A vacant building lot does not bring money into the city. In fact, it is usually the burden of the city to tear it down at a cost. At a time when the city is struggling financially, it becomes readily apparent that the fire department plays a vital role in not only protecting the lives and property of the citizens of Fitchburg but also preserving the vital tax dollars needed to run the city.

Respectfully submitted,

Lt. Phil Jordan

**FITCHBURG FIRE DEPARTMENT**  
**Training Division**  
**Lt Richard Liberatore**



PHOTO BY: LT RICH LIBERATORE

**Fire crews were able to use this  
house on South Street to conduct  
live drills before the house is slated  
to be demolished**



## TRAINING DIVISION

### 2017 ANNUAL REPORT

Training is the backbone of a fire department. It produces a well-prepared force that through repetition can increase the speed of an operation and enhance proper execution while reducing injuries. New members need Training to learn basic skills, and Senior Firefighters need the Training as a refresher and to keep their skills sharp. The department as a whole is a beneficiary, as training allows for constantly improved operations. We encourage daily training for the purpose of maintaining Firefighter skills and demonstrating proficiency in use of skills and equipment. All members of the Fitchburg Fire Department (FFD) complete a mandatory annual training program. In this calendar year 2017, training was conducted on all shifts using standard reference as indicated below.

The Fitchburg Fire Department has adopted the following nationally recognized agency standard references as a basis of training information:

- International Fire Service Training Association (IFSTA) manuals
- National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Standards
- Massachusetts Fire Academy (MFA) Impact Series, Student Manuals
- Interior Fire Attack, Rapid Intervention Crew, First Responder Operations Level
- U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Office of Grants and Training
- Chemical Protective Clothing Team Student Manual
- U.S. Department of Energy Transportation Emergency Preparedness Program
- Modular Emergency Response Radiological Transportation Training
- U.S. Fire Administration, National Fire Academy (NFA)
- Recognizing and Identifying Hazardous Materials, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition
- Federal Emergency Management Agency Guidelines for HAZ-MAT/WMD Response, Planning and Prevention Training
- Guidance for Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness (HEMP)
- Various manufactures training and reference manuals and audio visual aids
- Jones & Bartlett, Emergency Care & Transportation of the Sick and Injured, 11<sup>th</sup> Edition
- John Norman's "Fire Officer's Handbook of Tactics"
- Homeland Security, National Incident Management Systems, 2008

IFSTA manuals and reference material serve as the source of information for training sessions not covered by other SOG's or other outlines. IFSTA manuals and other recognized standards and sources of reference assure all members get accurate information from the same source. Reference for most training sessions is the IFSTA, Essentials of Firefighting augmented by the following IFSTA manuals:

- Fire Service Rescue Practices
- Fire Department Aerial Apparatus
- Principals of Vehicle Extrication
- Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus
- Fire Stream Practices
- Private Fire Protection and Detection
- Hazardous Material for First Responders
- Fire and Emergency Services Company Officer
- Pumping and Aerial Apparatus Driver / Operation

## Fitchburg Fire Department Annual Training Schedule 2017

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Sprinklers & Alarm Systems	January 2 <sup>nd</sup> to 5 <sup>th</sup>
Knots & Tool Hauling	January 2 <sup>nd</sup> to 5 <sup>th</sup>
SCBA/PASS	January 9 <sup>th</sup> to 12 <sup>th</sup>
HAZ-MAT R&I (Recertification Class)	January 30 <sup>th</sup> to February 2 <sup>nd</sup>
Tower Ladder 3 / Tower Ladder 2	February 6 <sup>th</sup> to 9 <sup>th</sup>
Unitil Gas / Electric Awareness	February 13 <sup>th</sup> to 16 <sup>th</sup>
HAZ-MAT WMD, VOC & PID (Recertification Class)	February 27 <sup>th</sup> to Mar.2 <sup>nd</sup>
Engine 7 / UTV / Brush Equipment	March 13 <sup>th</sup> to 16 <sup>th</sup>
Don, Doff, Decon (Recertification Class)	March 20 <sup>th</sup> to 23 <sup>rd</sup>
Jaws of Life and Auto Extrication	April 18 <sup>th</sup> to 27 <sup>th</sup>
Air Bags and Heavy Rescue	May 2 <sup>nd</sup> to 5 <sup>th</sup>
Ground Ladders	May 22 <sup>nd</sup> to 25 <sup>th</sup>
RIT Refresher Exercise	May 22 <sup>nd</sup> to 25 <sup>th</sup>
MassDEP Spill Recovery Trailer System Gr. #1	May 31 <sup>st</sup>
Firefighting Foam and Delivery Systems	June 12 <sup>th</sup> to 15 <sup>th</sup>
Double Hydrants & Water Supply	June 19 <sup>th</sup> to 22 <sup>nd</sup>
Hand Lines/Fire Ground Hydraulics	June 19 <sup>th</sup> to 22 <sup>nd</sup>
Drafting, Relay Pumping & Heavy Streams	June 26 <sup>th</sup> to 29 <sup>th</sup>
Standpipe Systems and High-Rise Firefighting	June 26 <sup>th</sup> to 29 <sup>th</sup>
Ventilation / PPV and Fan Truck (10-F-2)	July 17 <sup>th</sup> to 20 <sup>th</sup>
Mass Decon Unit HealthAlliance	July 24 <sup>th</sup> to 27 <sup>th</sup>
Interior Fire Attack	September 11 <sup>th</sup> to 14 <sup>th</sup>
Thermal Imaging/ Search & Rescue	September 18 <sup>th</sup> to 21 <sup>st</sup>
NEXAMP Solar Array Systems	September 19 <sup>th</sup> to 22 <sup>nd</sup>
MassDEP Spill Recovery Trailer System Gr. 4 & 3	October 17 <sup>th</sup> and 24 <sup>th</sup>
Fitchburg Police ASHE Presentation	October 31 <sup>st</sup> to Nov. 3 <sup>rd</sup>
RIT / FF Down Rescue	November 6 <sup>th</sup> to 16 <sup>th</sup>
Haz-Mat Competancy Exercise (Recertification Class)	December 1 <sup>st</sup> to 22 <sup>nd</sup>
Water & Ice Rescue	December 11 <sup>th</sup> to 14 <sup>th</sup>

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In 2017, time spent on training and activities other than responding to alarms was in excess of 22,997 hours. Hours of training and daily training sessions were as indicated below.

**Total Individual Course Completion Records:** 6944  
**Total Credit Hours Awarded (EMS & Haz-Mat Recertification Credits):** 952  
**Total Course/Classroom/Training Hours Awarded:** 22997

Training/Activity	Training/Activity	Training/Activity
Donning Doffing & Decontamination	Hazard Recognition and Identification	Five Gas Meters PID
Radiological Hazard Identification and Response	Incident Command	National Incident Management System
HAZ-MAT Response Skills Exercise	Unitil Gas & Electrical Awareness	Fire Pumps
City Streets	Engine Company Equipment	Engine Company Maintenance
Municipal Water Supplies	Double Hydrant Operations	Drafting Operations and Heavy Steam Appliances
Live Lines	Standpipe Operations	Interior Fire Attack
Firefighting Foam Applications & Use	Brush Fires & Related Special Equipment	Hose Testing
Tower & Ladder Driver Training	Forced and Positive Pressure Ventilation	Ladder Company Equipment
Self Contained Breathing Apparatus	Search & Rescue & Thermal Imaging	Rapid Intervention Team Training
Air Bags	Photovoltaic Systems and Solar Arrays	Water & Ice Rescue
Commercial and Industrial Inspections	School Inspections	Pre-Fire Planning & Site Inspections
Fire Prevention Talks & Extinguisher Demo's	Station Tours	Fire Prevention Month Activity
Emergency Medical Technician	Active Shooter Hostel Events	CPR/AED & EPI Pen
Paramedic Assistant	Company Officer Mentoring	Fire Alarm Operator Training
SOP Review	Computer Systems	Building Fires & Other
Fire Critiques	General Maintenance & Building Repairs	Exterior & Grounds Maintenance
Mass Decon Unit HealthAlliance Hospital	MassDEP Spill Recovery Trailer System	Other Unspecified Activity

Firefighters also receive specialized training and participate in equipment maintenance and testing activities as indicated below:

GROUP 1	23-Jan
GROUP 2	24-Jan
GROUP 3	25-Jan
GROUP 4	26-Jan
DAY-1 Wednesday, GR-1	5-Apr
DAY-2 Wednesday, GR-4	12-Apr
DAY-3 Wednesday, GR-3	19-Apr
DAY- 4 Wednesday, GR-2	26-Apr
GROUP 1 E-5 & E-6	5/11/17 & 5/15/17
GROUP 2 E-3 & Spare Hose	5/12/17 & 5/16/17
GROUP 3 E-2 & E-7	5/9/17 & 5/17/17
GROUP 4 E-1 & E-4	5/10/17 & 5/18/17
SPRING COURSE GR-3 WORKING	None
FALL COURSE GR-4 WORKING	None
DAY I – Wednesday, GR-2	8-Nov
DAY 2 – Wednesday, GR-1	15-Nov
DAY 3 – Wednesday, GR4	22-Nov
Day 4 – Wednesday, GR-3	29-Nov
All Fire Apparatus and Support Vehicles	August 1 <sup>st</sup> to August 24 <sup>th</sup>
City and Parochial School Systems	October 2 <sup>nd</sup> to October 26 <sup>th</sup>

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In addition to maintaining skills and equipment Fitchburg Firefighters answer thousands of requests for emergency assistance annually. Although not all calls for service come in the middle of training sessions it is a fairly common occurrence. It is not uncommon for crews participating in "In-Service" training to be called out to auto extrication, building or brush fire or some other incident. Calls responded to in 2017 were as indicated below.

### Request to Fitchburg Fire Department for Emergency Services (2017)

Call Reason Breakdown			
Call Reason	Disp.	Total	%
ASL	5132	5132	46.3
BLS	3044	3044	27.5
BOMB SCARE (Code 10-35)	1	1	<1
BOX ALARM	686	686	6.2
BRUSH FIRE	18	18	<1
CAR INTO BLDG	1	1	<1
CAR/VEHICLE FIRE	17	17	<1
CO DETECTOR	105	105	<1
DIVE TEAM	1	1	<1
FIRE ALARMS/NO SMOKE	377	377	3.4
BUILDING FIRE	70	70	<1
FIRE OUTSIDE/OTHER/TRAH	85	85	<1
HAZ-MAT WITH FIRE	0	0	0
INVESTIGATE (Smoke/other)	570	570	5.1
JAWS OF LIFE	1	1	<1
LOCKOUT AUTO	187	187	1.7
LOCKOUT BUILDING	76	76	<1
MUTUAL AID AMBULANCE	17	17	<1
MUTUAL AID FIRE	33	33	<1
MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENT	413	413	3.7
RESCUE ELEVATOR & OTHER	35	35	<1
SERVICE CALLS	125	125	1.1
SPILL/LEAK HAZ-MAT NO FIRE	23	23	<1
Call entered to test software	6	6	<1
WATER PROBLEM	60	60	<1
WATER / ICE RESCUE	2	2	<1
TOTAL	11084	11084	95.0

**From the Desk of the Training Coordinator:**

Training and development in the Fire Service is aimed at bettering the job performance of individuals and groups within our municipal fire department. It's a process which involves the sharpening of skills, changing of attitudes and gaining more knowledge to enhance the performance of each Firefighter. With improved performance, our firefighting personnel can increase productivity on the fire ground. The quality and the safety in which firefighting activities are accomplished means a greater effectiveness and efficiency for the fire force to be proficient in their tasks. Keeping in mind that we are only as good as our training practices.

The Massachusetts Department of Transportation MassDot introduced their Oil Spill Response Trailer and Fitchburg Fire received one of 18 regional trailers. Members from MassDot provided training to the department in 2016 and scheduled additional training for the Spring and Fall of 2017. The trailer is equipped with harbor booms, anchors, and buoys all used to contain a large hazmat spill in one of our many waterways. Fitchburg Fire continues to stay on the forefront of protecting our environment.

Along with the Regional Spill Trailer, our city Firefighters also have a Regional Technical Rescue Vehicle (Rescue One). Thirteen members from this department are certified to operate Rope, Confined Space, Trench, and High Angle Rope Rescue. Most of their certification was gained on their personal time and team members continue to train monthly so as to better their skills. These Tech Rescue Team members are working with other certified members from surrounding communities to supply the North Worcester Region with a high quality and most knowledgeable rescue force.

This year's Training schedule added new skills and presented better knowledge in area's that directly affect the safety of our community. Firefighters received an updated class from Unitil on the safe procedures working around gas and electric hazards during this early Spring. Managers from the Electric side and the Gas side of Unitil continue to work with the fire service in keeping aware of the hazards of both utilities. Another concern to FF on the lines of energy, are the Solar Array farms that continue to grow in the city. NEXAMP presented a safety class that explained the working of solar power and how the Fire Dept. can best deal with these power systems issues. But probably the most important class firefighters received this year was the Active Shooter Hostile Event (ASHE) presentation from Fitchburg Police Officer Ron L'Ecuyer. This is vital knowledge that is needs to be shared by both Law Enforcement and Fire personnel. This training is the start of Police working with Fire to rescue shooting or serious injured citizens in a hostile event. This team approach to rescue critically injured civilians will ultimately save many lives and keep both Police and Fire personnel functioning as an effective and efficient rescue unit. Hazmat training got a big boost from our partners at Omnova Corporation who trained with fire crews in their facility on Authority Drive. Fire Rescue personnel where able to actively train with Level A suyits, in a facility with other Hazmat professionals and see firsthand how challenging a rescue can be on property that contain hazardous chemicals. Many Challengers were overcome and the Omnova staff were extremely helpful and accommodating during the training exercises.

Respectfully submitted,

Lt. Richard Liberatore  
Fitchburg Fire Department  
Training Coordinator

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# **FITCHBURG FIRE DEPARTMENT**

## **Emergency Management**

### **Lt. Richard Liberatore**



PHOTO BY: RICK JOLLIMORE

**In 2017 Fitchburg Emergency Management Agency lost a long time volunteer Bryant Shepard (left) to cancer. Bryant will be sadly missed.**



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## Fitchburg Emergency Management Agency

2017 Annual Report

Richard Liberatore / Fire Lieutenant  
Director of Emergency Management  
&

Roberto Alicea / Fire Captain  
Deputy Director of Emergency Management

### Mitigation

### Preparedness

### Response

### Recovery

**What is the role of local Emergency Management:** It is extremely important for department heads and chief elected officials to occasionally meet as a group to review and update response plans. It is as simple as knowing that we need to plan ahead and be prepared to work together as a team to minimize the impact of large scale emergencies and disasters on the citizens who depend on us to do just that.

As we move more and more towards regionalization and all hazard emergency response, it becomes increasingly apparent that the key to managing large emergencies is multi agency, multi jurisdictional planning. Every individual agency carries a particular insight into the four aspects of emergency response. Police, fire, health, public works, the administrative branch all have concerns unique to themselves. All must participate in planning for emergency response and recovery. At one point in the above historical chronology, response responsibilities and capabilities at the Federal level were scattered across five agencies. Although in an emergency most responded well to solve their piece of the puzzle, it was eventually realized there needed to be a central agency with responsibility for and authority to coordinate agencies to facilitate a quicker and more effective response. Out of this mindset FEMA was born.

Local Emergency Management plays a very important role in our City. Coordinating agencies, public and private, federal, state, and local, in planning for and responding to emergencies. The Director of Emergency Management (EMD) maintains a Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan for the City of Fitchburg. The EMD is responsible for maintaining our Natural Hazard Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plan, Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act (EPCRA), enacted 1986. EMD is an active member of the Montachusett Regional Emergency Planning Committee (MREPC). Comprised of the communities of Fitchburg, Leominster and Lunenburg, the MREPC represents the largest population block in North Central Massachusetts.



The Director of Emergency Management works with local Fire and Law Enforcement Officers, Elected Officials, Government and State Agencies, nonprofit organizations, private companies, and the general public to develop effective plans that minimize damage and disruptions during an emergency. The Director must analyze the resources, equipment, and staff available to respond to any emergency. Our Emergency Management Director will work with other Emergency Control Professionals to help lead the response to an emergency, to prioritize certain actions that need to be taken, which may include ordering evacuation, conduct rescue missions, or opening up public shelters for those displaced by the disaster. By communicating with supervisors, peers, and subordinates, the Emergency Management Director can make confident decisions to solve the most difficult problems.

**The value of our FEMA Volunteers:** David Richard, Chief of the Emergency Management Volunteers has a very dedicated group of volunteers. These CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) volunteers, are trained to respond safely, responsibly, and effectively during emergency and non-emergency situations in our community. Members are certified in a Federal Emergency Management disaster preparedness program where the CERT team will respond to events or issues to assist local Government. Our CERT team have regular monthly meeting that includes training exercises and equipment servicing. Duties of the CERT team involve emergency pumping and lighting operations, traffic control, emergency shelter activation, lost person search, support a rehab station for FD personnel and to assist at any local civic event. With the assistance of federal grants the CERT team has acquired some new equipment. This year Fitchburg CERT was granted \$4,981.00 from the State Homeland Security Program (SHSP). Grant money request will allow Fitchburg CERT to continue the upgrade for High Energy Efficiency Lighting. But the primary mission for the CERT team this year was to be able to establish a designated Rehab Operation Area, where firefighters and emergency personnel could be sheltered from the elements, receive refreshments, and have an area to destress from the incident. CERT purchased pop-up canopies, coolers and a cabin tent which can act as a Rehab Station or a Command Post at a critical incident in our community.

This year of 2017, our trusted volunteers of Fitchburg Emergency Management responded to 29 Emergency Calls that ranged from pumping out basements, to lighting details, to assisting police for traffic emergencies. In addition to emergency calls, the CERT Team assisted emergency agencies in providing electrical power and lighting for civic events, and using FEMA vehicles to move equipment for Fire Dept. Dive/Rescue team and to haul equipment for other Fire Dept. training opportunities. Fitchburg CERT continues to work with our Municipal Airport to provide assistance to Venues who need power lighting at public events on airport property. The volunteers worked in shifts to provide this event with electrical power, lighting and establishing water stations. Our FEMA Volunteers realize the value of getting involved in any events that benefit our city directly. It gives them the opportunity to make a difference and to be positive energy for their community in times of crisis. FEMA continues to train and to maintain their equipment, always ready to serve. These men and woman are simply neighbors helping neighbors. They understand the significance of work and are able to generate new ideas to better their work performance. Our FEMA Volunteers are dedicated to the Agency that they serve and to the City in which they live.

**Fitchburg, Leominster, and Lunenburg working together:** There are 4 Annual Meetings for MREPC per year. The MREPC is the Montachusett Regional Emergency Planning Committee and its purpose is to prepare and maintain an emergency plan to minimize the risks from hazards

and protect the public health and environment in the Communities of Fitchburg, Leominster and Lunenburg. At the meetings, finance's and upcoming grants are discussed along with recognizing out local Tier II Hazardous owners and operators and get important updates from their facilities. Utility suppliers will also update the committee members on how they are better supplying energy and service to the three communities. Several local business organizations are invited to come in and speak with members of the MREPC on related topics that effect our area of North Worcester Country. Members of the MRECP participate in quarterly EMD meetings to share valuable training data and updated information in regards to developing our Emergency Management skills. MEMA Regional Representatives will always attend the MRECP meetings to keep the committee members updated to the State updated recommendations and procedures in Emergency Management.

**We certified for SERC which will cover 3-5 yrs.:** In 1986 Congress passed the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act, Public Law 99-499, commonly known as EPCRA or SARA Title III. Section 301(a) of the legislation required each governor to appoint a state emergency response commission (SERC) by April of 1987. Section 301(b) charged the SERCs with the responsibility of dividing the states into planning districts and Section 301(c) for appointing local emergency planning committees (LEPCs). In 1987, the Massachusetts State Emergency Response Commission, in compliance with the new legislation, designated each MEMA sub-area as planning districts and appointed a Local Emergency Planning Committee for each city and town within them. The legislation required that the committees have representation from a specified number of interest groups. Our Local Emergency Planning Committee involves the communities of Fitchburg, Leominster and Lunenburg. Together our purpose is to prepare and maintain an emergency plan that will continually strive to minimize the risks from hazardous materials and protect the public health and environment of the City of Fitchburg, Leominster and Lunenburg and to adhere to the guidelines set forth in Title III of SARA.

**We certified in NIMS which is an annual process:** NIMS, The National Incident Management System is a systematic, proactive approach to guide departments and agencies at all levels of government, nongovernment organizations, and the private sector to work together seamlessly and manage incidents involving all threats and hazards regardless of cause, size, location, or complexity in order to reduce loss of life, property and harm to the environment.

The Incident Command System (ICS) which is a subcomponent of the NIMS, is a tool used by Emergency Management, for the command, control, and coordination of an emergency response team. ICS is based upon changeable, scalable response organization providing a common hierarchy within which people can work together effectively. ICS gives the Emergency Management Director standard response and operation procedures, to reduce the problems and potential for miscommunication at an emergency incident, until the incident has been declared resolved. Presently all of our Fitchburg Firefighters are IS100 and ICS700 trained. Our Officer Rank have additional ICS 200, 300, and 400 advanced training and a few have the ICS 800 NIMS certification. This year all Department Heads were asked to review the ICS credentials of their staff and many department had members establish certification in the ICS 100, 700 and 200 training.

**Public Safety Review of Public Assembly of Public Assembly Events:** Public health and safety review of public assembly events is required for events held on city property or those that require licensing, services or support from the City. Annual events like the Longsjo Bicycle

Race, Civic Days, Auto Shows, Municipal events, street fairs, carnivals, concerts, Beer fest and others social events need to be reviewed by city officials for public assembly. The review process conceived and implemented by this Office of Emergency Management was spawned as a result of demands placed on city dept.'s and other services such as local hospitals, to assure that these assemblies are maintaining a safe atmosphere for both visitors and participants to the event. This process helps eliminate confusion on the part of event sponsors as to what is required by the city to conduct events. It also fosters uniformity and communication and coordination between city agencies. It promotes a clearer understanding of what is being required and what if any outstanding issues needs to be addressed i.e. traffic control, police or fire details, insurance, health requirements for food and beverage sales, vendor permits and so on before allowing events to take place. This process has been well received by agencies like HealthAlliance Hospital, the Fitchburg Municipal Airport, event promoters and managers and others. In the final analysis the general public benefits by having events that are safer, cleaner and less disruptive than they otherwise may have been.

Fitchburg Emergency Management administers over the Fitchburg Citizen Corps Council. Citizen Corps is the parent organization for volunteer groups in the City. Under federal funding guidelines Citizen Corps component groups are as follows:

### Citizen Corps Programs



Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS) works to enhance the capacity of state and local law enforcement to utilize volunteers



Neighborhood Watch/USA on Watch incorporates terrorism awareness education into its existing crime prevention mission



The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program educates and trains citizens in basic disaster response skills



The Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) Program helps medical, public health, and other volunteers offer their expertise



Fire Corps promotes the use of citizen advocates to provide support to fire and rescue departments



Homeland Security

**From The Desk of the Director, Fitchburg Office of Emergency Management:** Having completed my third year as the City Director of Emergency Management, my top priority is and will always be to assure the safe welfare of all our citizens and that we have the necessary resources to assist our City of Fitchburg if and when a disaster or critical incident may strike. We have strong partners at the State level with MEMA and with our MEMA representative Kristen Jerome and Pat Carnevale. As Emergency Manager of Fitchburg, I will continue to educate myself with Emergency Management classes sponsored by MEMA, Homeland Security and the Dept. of Fire Services so I may continue to conduct myself in an effective and efficient manner. There are great opportunities offered by these Agencies and I am very fortunate to be able to attend many of these disaster response courses.

I remain active in all of MEMA quarterly meetings and attended all of the training seminars established for the EMD's across the State. The table top exercises, the evacuation and sheltering courses, the planning, mitigation and recovery class, all work in strengthening my Office of Emergency management. This office continues to be part of the State wide MEMA Conference

in Worcester where over 750 EMD's and Emergency Disaster Manager's across the State coming together to share knowledge and personal experiences.

Fitchburg State University and this Office of Emergency Management continue to remain great partners, coordinating relation resources and providing valuable education opportunities for this Office and the CERT Team that works with me. MEMA and Kristen Jerome remains a vital link to the success of the FSU Emergency Management program. Working hard to keep our City and the local University prepared to use necessary resources in a critical event.

Montacuset Regional Emergency Planning Commission (MREPC) continues to monitor the communities that it serves. There is good communication between all of our Tier II contingents, providing our communities of Lunenburg, Leominster and Fitchburg, with the mandated information needed for emergency planning. Keeping our three communities safe and informed, is the main goal of the MREPC.

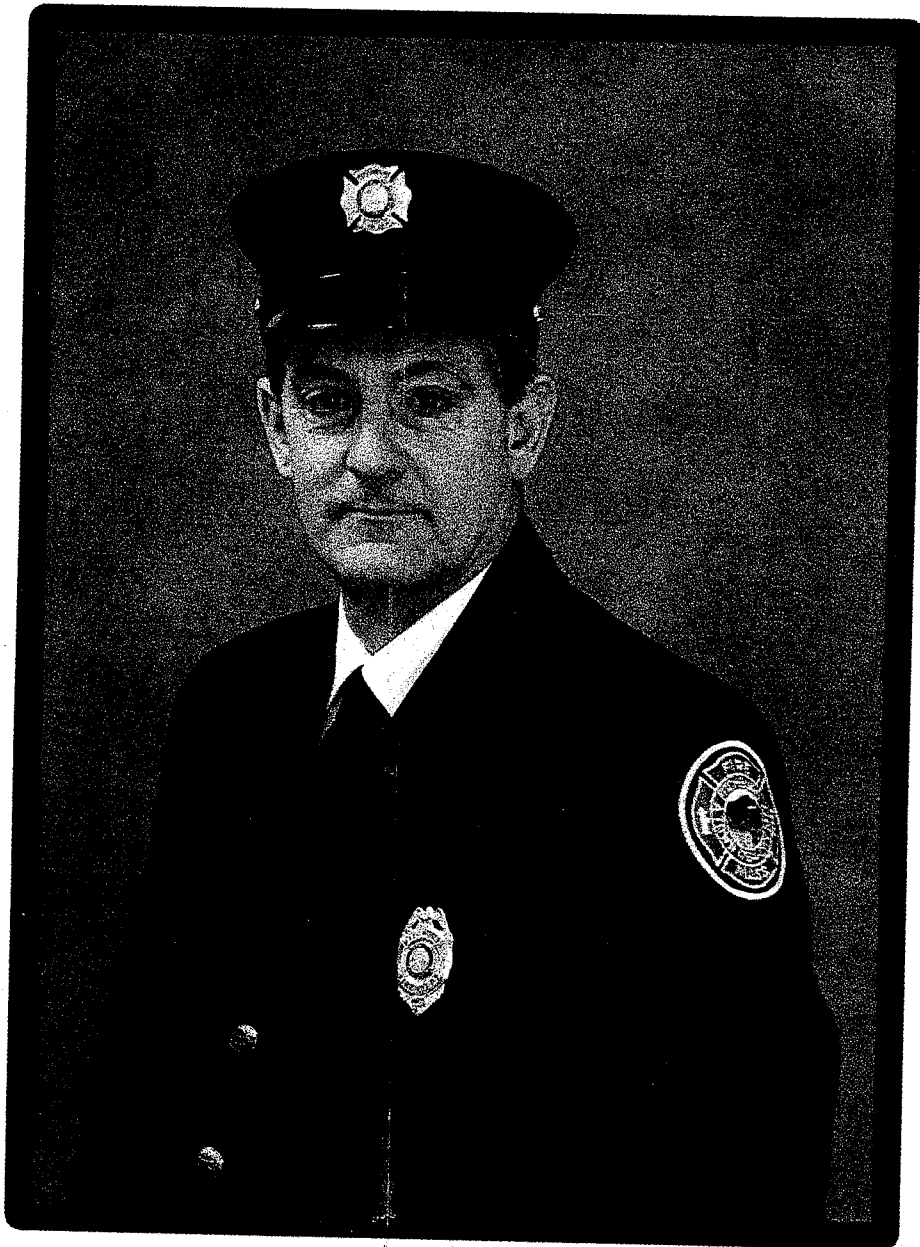
As the City's EMD, I look forward to the coming year to take on new challenges and participating in more educational opportunities for emergency planning and response. I will continue to provide leadership and expertise at all emergency incidents. The welfare of the community is always our number one priority.

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# **FITCHBURG FIRE DEPARTMENT**

## **Personel**

### **Deputy Chief Thomas Dateo**



FFD PHOTO

**Firefighter Greg May retired February 28th 2017 after 34  
years of service to the City of Fitchburg.**

PERSONNEL DIVISION

Respectfully Submitted,

Deputy Chief Thomas A. Dateo Jr.

RETIREMENTS

PRIVATE	GREGORY MAY	02/28/2017
PRIVATE*	JACK MULCAHY	03/15/2017
PRIVATE	SCOTT MACARTHUR	06/18/2017

\*Passed away as an active employee due to job related illness.

RESIGNED

MECHANIC	KEVIN DAVIS	03/24/2017
CLERK	JULIANNA DIPRIMA	09/08/2017

PROMOTIONS

APPOINTMENT

FIREFIGHTER	SKYLER KOZLOSKI	03/13/2017
FIREFIGHTER	PAUL DUQUETTE	03/13/2017
FIREFIGHTER	TYSON HERZBERG	07/18/2017
FIREFIGHTER	JOSHUA SURRETTE	10/03/2017
FIREFIGHTER	KEVIN MACHADO	10/03/2017

FIVE YEAR DEPARTMENT MANNING

2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
81	79	81	78	78

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WORK VACANCIES

VACATION DAYS	441	24hr. shifts
PERSONAL DAYS	222	24hr. shifts
SICK DAYS	200	24hr. shifts
INJURY DAYS	21	24hr. shifts
FUNERAL DAYS	7	24hr. shifts
LEFT WORK SICK	1	hours
LEFT WORK INJURED	0	hours
JURY DUTY	0	hours
LIGHT DUTY	5	24hr. shifts
TRAINING	1372	hours
COMP TIME EARNED	784	hours
COMP HOLIDAY EARNED	0	hours
COMP TIME TAKEN	1254	hours
UNION	11	24hr shifts
MILITARY	4	24hr shifts
MATERNITY	3	24hr shifts

**SENIORITY IN RANK**

**December 31, 2017**

**CHIEF**

Roy, Kevin 11/15/1977

**DEPUTY CHIEFS**

Dateo, Thomas 04/20/1982  
Pinault, Mitchell 04/19/1988  
Gravel, David 04/19/1988  
Normandin, Gregg 03/04/1986

**CAPTAINS**

Murchie, Brian 04/21/1987  
Marrama, Anthony 01/26/2010  
Alicea, Roberto 03/18/1997  
Courtemanche, Chad 03/22/2005

**LIEUTENANTS**

Liberatore, Richard 05/20/1980  
Jordan, Philip Jr. 07/06/1989  
Hyvarinen, Barry 09/06/1994  
Gelinas, Michael 12/21/1993  
LaFleur, Robert 09/06/1994  
Gilmartin, John 10/15/1996  
Suarez, Dante 11/09/1995  
Castelli, Anthony 03/22/2005  
Cringan, Ryan 08/03/2010  
Suarez, Edward 06/17/1997  
Jollimore, Richard 04/19/1988  
Fenwick, Donald 06/07/2011  
Roy, Andrew 01/26/2010  
Roy, Patrick 11/21/2006  
Morin, Gregory 06/17/1997



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**FIREFIGHTERS**

Boudreau, Kevin	04/21/1987
Piermarini, David	04/19/1988
Kukkula, Martin	04/19/1988
Bowers, Mark	04/19/1988
Peralta, Scott	10/04/1988
Torres, Michael	07/06/1989
Marabello, James	07/06/1989
Doughty, Randall	07/06/1989
Haverty, Patrick	12/21/1993
Gradito, Peter	02/15/1994
Ramos, Valentine	04/05/1994
Nault, James	06/21/1994
O'Kane, Timothy	11/09/1995
Pawlak, Michael	10/15/1996
Lambert, Jude	03/18/1997
Smith, Erica	06/17/1997
Vautour, Bill	09/17/1998
Robles, Francisco	01/09/2003
Dickhaut, Jonathan	01/09/2003
Ortiz, Roger	01/26/2010
Osgood, Dean	01/26/2010
Castelli, Michael	01/26/2010
Parillo, Edward	01/26/2010
Roy, Sean	01/26/2010
Pappas, Kristy	01/26/2010
Forrest, Kyle	08/03/2010
Klein, Kristopher	08/03/2010
Vaughan, Yona	08/03/2010
Similia, Antonio	06/07/2011
Knowles, Anthony	06/07/2011
Lopez, Kervin	06/07/2011
Dacosta, Robert	01/31/2012
May, Jonathan	01/31/2012
Pike, Justin	10/16/2012
Jones, Adrian	10/16/2012
Thomas, Shane	10/16/2012
Maillet, Kristopher	10/16/2012
Silva, Jose	10/16/2012
Rodriguez, Hector	08/14/2013
Smith, Michael	08/14/2013
Girouard, John	08/14/2013
Williams, David	01/09/2014

Joubert, Sean	04/16/2014
Fratlicelli, Matthew	11/18/2014
Garcia, Samuel	03/03/2015
Hollums, Kenneth	03/03/2015
Glenny, Matthew	05/26/2015
Boudreau, Jeffrey	05/26/2015
Liberatore, Anthony	09/21/2015
Landry, Nicholas	09/21/2015
Roy, Jarrod	12/07/2015
Doughty, Andrew	12/07/2015
Kozloski, Skyler	03/13/2017
Duquette, Paul	03/13/2017
Herzberg, Tyson	07/18/2017
Surette, Joshua	10/03/2017
Machado, Kevin	10/03/2017

(81 Firefighters)

Our continued goal is to maintain a staffing level that will protect the residents, students, and the visitors of our city. Our commitment is to continue to replace members as they leave our department and to increase our staffing levels to provide the best Fire and EMS protection possible. This past year there were three fire fighter vacancies; and with the approval of The Mayor we were able to replace the three vacancies and hire an additional two firefighter from a Staffing Grant we obtained. We are hoping that we will continue to receive staffing grants to replace firefighter vacancies. We are one of the busiest departments in the state and need adequate personnel to safely protect the residents and firefighters of our city.

Lieutenant Philip Jordan continues as our Fire Prevention Director. Lieutenant Richard Liberatore continues as our Training Officer and City's Emergency Management Director. Lieutenant Richard Jollimore continues as our Fire Alarm Director and Private Scott Peralta continues working with Lieutenant Jordan as our Fire Prevention Inspector. All day personnel continue to do exemplary work for our department.

It has been a challenging year for fire suppression and staff personnel. Our day staff continues to make improvements to our training, inspection and code enforcement. Our suppression personnel have seen an increase in fires this year. We have had several multiple alarm fires as well as several single alarm fires. All personnel have been exemplary in fire suppression. Our firefighters continue to be professional and show their utmost dedication to the City of Fitchburg.

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# **FITCHBURG FIRE DEPARTMENT**

## **Buildings & Grounds**

### **Deputy Chief David Gravel**

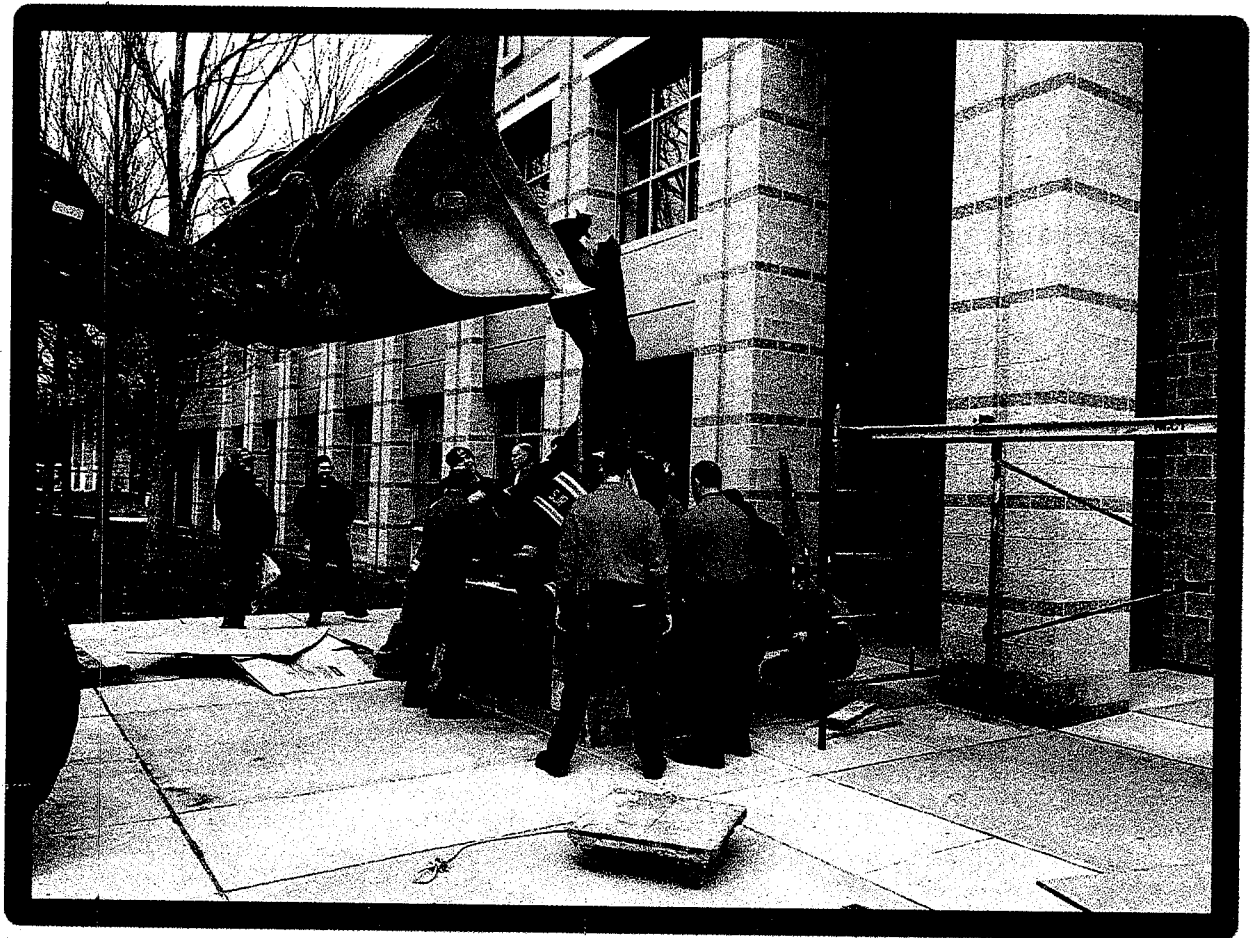


PHOTO BY: RICK JOLLIMORE

**Firefighters along with Phil Esposito of Montachusett Construction and help of the DPW mount the steel beam from the World Trade Center out front of central fire headquarters.**

## **BUILDINGS, GROUNDS & FURNISHINGS**

### **2017**

Submitted by Deputy Chief David Gravel

I am pleased to report that many of the goals set for our buildings were accomplished. If not for the dedication and volunteerism from many of FFD personnel, these goals would not have been attained. I commend these members for the willingness and effort to keep these buildings in great shape. Many of our members have special talents that they unselfishly share for the betterment of the department. This work is above and beyond the required maintenance and general housekeeping that is performed by all members.

Our days are usually consumed with training, vehicle maintenance, commercial and educational inspections, not to mention emergency calls. However, we try to save Fridays for buildings and grounds maintenance.

One event that is often overlooked is spring cleaning. In all three stations, all four groups are assigned a project, either inside or out. Every square foot is overhauled and cleaned. This event prolongs buildings, grounds and furnishings. With the high energy cost, it's going to be very important that we remain vigilant in retrofitting components to make Summer St & Oak Hill Stations more efficient.

#### **HEADQUARTERS**

Central station, located at 33 North St., is a little over 18 years old and its assessed value is \$7,582,200.

As like any other 18 year old building, things break down, components need repair and maintenance. Service contracts are vital to assure the appearance and values are kept up as well as warranties stay intact. The extra volunteer work done by our members is also very important in keeping up the properties.

This year the department added the 9/11 memorial monument to recognize the heroic efforts of our brother firefighters in New York City. This was accomplished with the help of students from Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical High School, Phil Esposito Construction Co. Quality Fab Welding Co. and also the DPW and the Cemetery Dept. with digging the foundation, and with the placement of the steel.

Every year FFD receives labor-free painting from the Worcester County Sherriff's Department. They have developed an inmate community service program, which utilizes several minimum security inmates that provide free labor. A sheriff's supervisor accompanies the group each day, receives and carries out the assignment. The people they send over are good painters and put in an honest days work. This service we receive is invaluable, and we are extremely appreciative. We furnish the supplies and lunch, they supply the labor. The project the Sherriff's Dept. performed this year is the sandblasting and painting of the Training Tower and lintels at headquarters. Our department received bids for the work on the tower and lintels for a total of

\$19,204 for the tower and \$10,280 for the lintels for a total of \$30,225. Again the Sherriff's department did the work at a considerable cost reduction, to the department. The total cost to the department was just under \$5,000. Future projects are power wash tower to remove mold from the blocks. Repave the front ramp and sandblast and paint pollards.

#### OAK HILL STATION

Oak Hill Station, located at 231 Fairmount St (intersection of Oak Hill & Fairmount) is now 117 years old and assessed at \$475,800. The major project that has been completed this year was the floor area behind engine two was found to have considerable water damage to floor joist. Again Phil Esposito Construction performed the work to repair this area. Future project considerations: A new heating system upgrade, with a conversion from heating oil to natural gas. Also moving some plumbing for ease and convenience to firefighters for washing and refilling the engine housed there. Also we purchased a new snow blower for the crews to use.

We obtained an estimate to have the entire brick exterior repointed. Due to the age of the building, I would recommend this be done very soon. This project still needs to be done.

#### SUMMER STREET STATION

Built in 1980, Summer St Station sits on the corner of Summer St., and John Fitch. The land and building is assessed at \$ 458,800. Summer St. this year didn't have any major changes. This year the only changes were a new air drop for e1 and a new gear dryer for ff's to dry their structural gear. Future projects: New kitchen cabinets, Gear lockers for turnout gear, a new snow blower.

#### Vendors & Contractors

We continue to assess and evaluate vendors & contractors who maintain and service fire department buildings and grounds. We not only evaluate cost, but quality and professionalism are important factors when contracting business entities. We try very hard to keep our contracts local, but it's not always feasible. The following is a list of vendors we've contracted in all three stations.

- |                                            |                                                      |
|--------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| • <b>Cogswell Sprinkler Co.</b>            | Maintain & repair sprinkler system at headquarters   |
| • <b>Garage Doors Unlimited</b>            | Maintain & repair overhead bay doors in all stations |
| • <b>O'Connell Fire Protection Systems</b> | Maintain & test extinguishers & kitchen suppression  |
| • <b>MPC Services Inc.</b>                 | Maintain & repair HVAC and plumbing at all stations. |
| • <b>Bay State Elevator</b>                | Maintain, test, & repair elevator at headquarters    |
| • <b>Ruel Electric</b>                     | Electrical evaluation & repair                       |
| • <b>Hobart</b>                            | Dishwasher issues at headquarters                    |
| • <b>Horrigan Cleaners</b>                 | Carpet cleaners                                      |
| • <b>Unic-Pro</b>                          | Professional floor stripping & waxing                |
| • <b>Powers Generator Inc.</b>             | Maintenance & repair all generators, & radio tower   |
| • <b>Automatic Laundry</b>                 | Maintain & repair washer and dryer at headquarters   |

- |                                  |                                          |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| • <b>Roto Rooter</b>             | Extensive clogged plumbing problems      |
| • <b>Staples</b>                 | Paper & cleaning supplies                |
| • <b>Gettens Electric</b>        | Light bulbs                              |
| • <b>Home Depot</b>              | Paint & paint supplies                   |
| • <b>North Star Construction</b> | Roofing Issues                           |
| • <b>Sabourin Hardware</b>       | Misc. items; brooms, shovels, etc.       |
| • <b>Rockys Hardware</b>         | Misc. items; hand tools, batteries, etc. |
| • <b>Proctor Landscaping</b>     | Mulch, seed, etc.                        |
| • <b>Mulcahy Line Painting</b>   | Hard top line painting                   |
| • <b>Testagrossa Paving</b>      | Hard top crack repair                    |
| • <b>Arbor-Turf</b>              | Lawn chemical                            |

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# **FITCHBURG FIRE DEPARTMENT**

## **Emergency Medical Services**

### **Captain Chad Courtemanche**

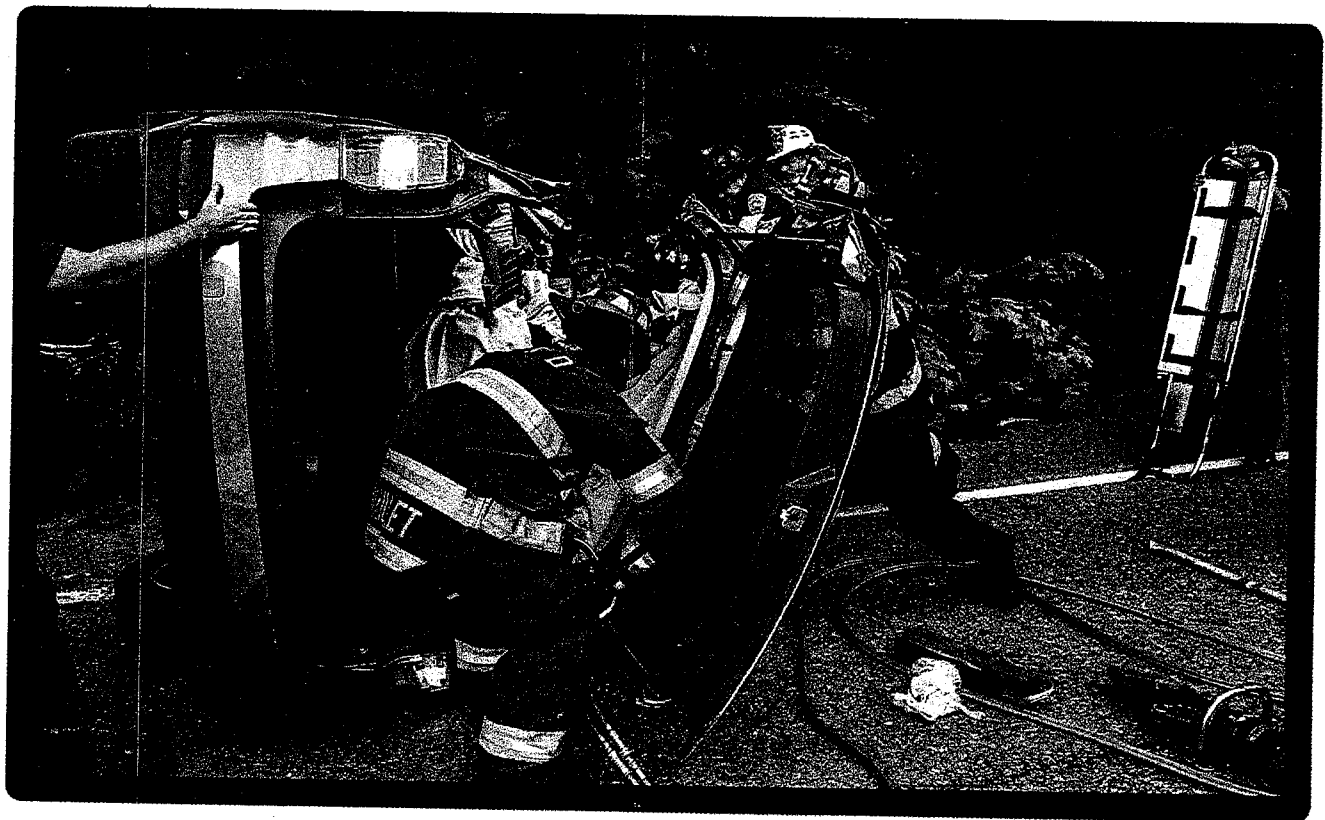


PHOTO BY: DAVE BRYCE

**Firefighters work to free the occupant of  
this car after an accident on August 1st  
2017 on South Street.**

## EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE

### 2017 Annual Report

2017 has shown the continual need for an effective and efficient Emergency Medical Service Department here in the City of Fitchburg. The Fitchburg Fire Department's Rescue 3 continues to work alongside MedStar Ambulance's Fitchburg EMS Paramedic units to ensure that the numerous EMS calls fielded each day are met with the highest quality of care in our region. This partnership allows for quick, reliable, and capable emergency medical care to the citizens of Fitchburg. Fitchburg Fire EMS personnel are dedicated professional care givers who will continue to broaden the assessment, diagnostic, and management capabilities of pre-hospital providers. Training and knowledge of their job is a substantial contribution to our quality care.

Equipment and supplies are constantly being updated and replaced as needed. This allows our EMT and Paramedic crews the necessary tools to handle even the most difficult and complex of medical emergencies, in addition to the large volume of routine medical emergencies. A well-stocked supply room keeps all three emergency units fully prepared and properly equipped to be in service for all calls. The medical cabinets on the Rescue are checked daily by the oncoming Firefighters. The EMS stock room also receives a weekly check by Firefighters and supplies are replaced as needed. The Medic units from Fitchburg EMS go through a daily check and their emergency vehicles are equally stocked with all required equipment. Fitchburg EMS (MedStar Ambulance Company) provides all of our medical supplies for both Ambulance vehicles and our Fire Department Rescue 3 vehicle. The medical bags on all fourteen of our Fire Department apparatus and support vehicles receive a daily check and are kept stocked and up to date with all the necessary medical equipment, again provided to us by Fitchburg EMS (MedStar Ambulance Company).

The City of Fitchburg had a continued upward rise in the call volume for Emergency Medical Services in 2017, but all of our EMS vehicles and personnel were there to answer the challenge. The total number of EMS calls for the year 2017 was 9,332 responses, an 11% increase over the prior year. Fitchburg Fire Rescue 3, manned by 2 FFD Firefighter/EMTs (a BLS unit) responded to 4032 medical calls. That is in addition to the 624 fire calls it responds to as well. Fitchburg EMS Paramedic 1 (1 Paramedic and 1 EMT) housed at Headquarters responded to 3424 calls, while Fitchburg EMS Paramedic 2 (1 Paramedic and 1 EMT) out of the Oak Hill Firehouse, responded to 2602 calls. All emergency calls come into our dispatch center (Fire Alarm) at Headquarters and each call is answered by qualified personnel, utilizing Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD) as required by the Commonwealth. Emergency care is very demanding in the City of Fitchburg and our EMS Department needs to keep up with these demands. The two Paramedic units and our own Rescue 3 continue to be outstanding in patient care.

This year, the Fitchburg Fire Department and its members have continued with following the newly adopted standards for EMT and Paramedic recertification. This is the third year that the



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department's EMTs and paramedics have recertified under these new guidelines. This has continued to keep the Department's 81 EMTs more active in dealing with their individual recertification. The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Office of Emergency Services (OEMS) has joined with the National Registry of Emergency Service and the National Organization has now taken over all State recertification policies. This third full year under the new policy has continued to be an education for all members and the adjustment to the new standards and procedures is still ongoing. This new system has been challenging, just as any major change would be, but through the continued hard work and effort by all those involved this system will by all accounts pay dividends in the future. At this time all of the departments EMTs have affiliated themselves with the National Registry Certification Program and by April 1<sup>st</sup> of 2017, all members will have gone through the new recertification process. With the new system in place for over a year now, it is evident that this innovative and comprehensive way of educating our members will pay dividends moving forward. This ensures that our EMTs and Paramedics receive the best training and are better equipped to provide the needed critical care out in the field. Continuing education is essential in preparing members to handle even the most stressful situation professionally, efficiently, and expediently. Education has always been and will remain the backbone of professional emergency medical care.

This year in an effort by the state to combat the growing opioid epidemic across the Commonwealth, Fitchburg Fire continues to seek grants that provide us with nasal Naloxone (Narcan). These grants will continue to prove vital as our emergency medical personnel are called to numerous overdoses on a week by week basis. This opioid antagonist has shown to be an invaluable resource for our members in providing immediate and life-saving care to patients.

Additionally, last year the Fitchburg Fire Department was able to place a new Rescue 3 in service allowing the department to utilize a fully stocked backup in case of maintenance or repairs are needed. Rescue 4 has undergone extensive repairs to the chassis and now back in service allowing seamless response times if apparatus are needed to be switched out. The three new automated external defibrillators or AEDs that were purchased in 2015 have allowed crews to provide exceptional care when needed at countless EMS calls throughout the city. These portable electronic devices automatically diagnose the life-threatening cardiac arrhythmias of ventricular fibrillation and ventricular tachycardia in a patient, and are able to treat them through defibrillation, the application of electrical therapy which stops the arrhythmia, allowing the heart to reestablish an effective rhythm. These devices are currently on all three of the department's front line engines. On top of being an upgrade over our older AEDs, these new devices allow for easier documentation and greater compatibility with the equipment used by Medstar's paramedic units. This ability to seamlessly transmit information between the devices is key in providing needed data and stats quickly to the providers on scene. The department is also in the beginning stages of applying for a grant for a new automated CPR device that would allow better and faster patient care along with transportation.

The Fitchburg Fire EMS program continues to evolve and adapt in order to provide the highest medical care possible for the residents and visitors of the City of Fitchburg. The field of EMS is

*City of Fitchburg,* March 6, 2018

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one of continual change and progress. With this constant evolution comes many challenges. It is the responsibility of Fitchburg Fire EMS and its members to be committed to these tasks both in the present and as the Department moves forward into the future. This will ensure that all those who find themselves in need of emergency medical services within our city limits receive the very best of prehospital care.

Respectfully Submitted,

Captain Chad Courtemanche  
EMS Coordinator

Annual Report  
Fitchburg Fire  
Department  
Year 2017

# FITCHBURG FIRE DEPARTMENT

## Fire Alarm & Communications

### Lt. Richard Jollimore

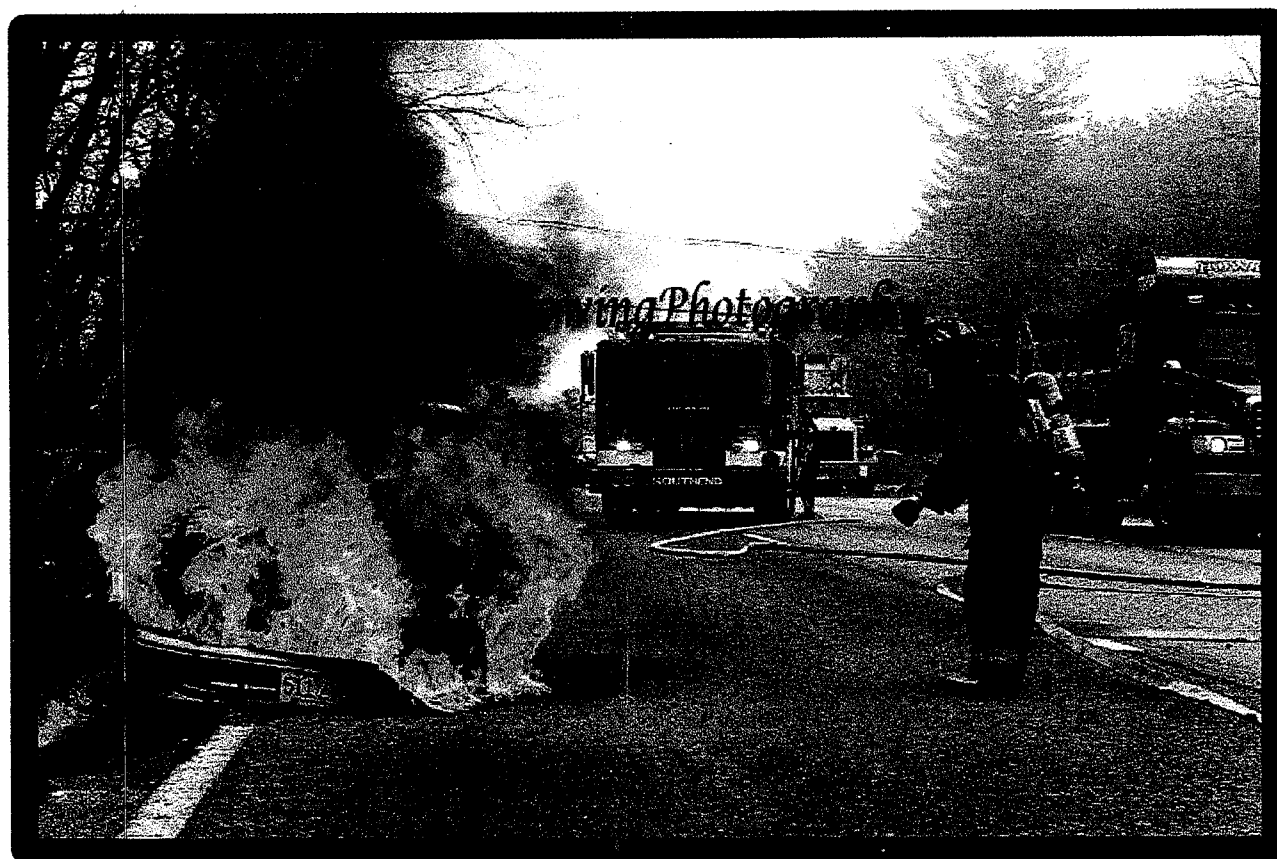


PHOTO BY: SCOTT LAPRADE

A car fire on route 2 in the west bound  
lane brought traffic to a stand still while  
the engine 1 crew extinguished the flames,  
April 28th 2017

## Fire Alarm Annual Report

2017

Fitchburg Fire Department's radio communications and Fire Alarm is the point of contact for the general public for fire and EMS emergency and non-emergency calls. This dispatch center is staffed 24 hours a day, 365 days a year by a firefighter. The supervisor works business hours of Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Fitchburg Fire Dispatch is also the hub for Massachusetts District 8 fire mutual aid center. We are responsible for assembling regional responses for task forces and strike team for fire situations, and dive teams and high tech rescue teams are requested through this center for all district 8 communities.

All 911 calls transferred the Fitchburg Police are handled here along with calls from the 978-343-4801 emergency line, the general calls lines. The Fire Department also maintains and monitors 300+ radio alarm boxes through our AES Intellinet system, which is outlined in a separate section.

Dispatchers are required to monitor the following radio channels Fitchburg Fire Ops (Operations/Main Channel), Fitchburg Fire ground, Fitchburg Fire Tac 2 (encrypted simplex channel), Fitchburg Fire VHF 1 (used by Fitchburg Emergency Management), District 8 Mid-State, Fitchburg Police, Mass Emergency Management (VHF), and an additional UHF consulate usually set to Leominster Fire.

We also have scanner scanning local fire departments, and a dedicated phone line with attached speaker-phone that is a direct tie line to Massachusetts Emergency Management in Framingham (The Bunker), known as the NAWAS line. It is a direct line to Every Fire District control point, MEMA, State Police, National Weather Service and other agencies.

The Fitchburg Fire Alarm dispatched 11,085 emergency calls in 2017, and calls are being processed and apparatus are being dispatched well within the recommended NFPA times.

### **Radios**

All Fire Department radio communications and equipment are maintained by myself and David Monty.

### **Pagers**

There are a small number of firefighters that still use a standalone pagers though a majority of the firefighter now use text messaging through a new program "I am Responding" which goes straight

to their cell phones. The software allows off duty firefighters that are being called in for an incident to respond in real time as to whether they are responding or not.

### **Training**

EMD training is ongoing with the 16 junior most firefighters but there are other senior firefighters that elect to keep up their EMD status. Any new hired firefighter goes through the 40 hour Emergency Medical Dispatcher course to become EMD certified.

### **Fire Alarm Equipment**

All fire alarm equipment as well as the computers are maintained by myself along with David Monty and the Fitchburg I.T. department.

The consoles are starting to show their age as they are now 18 years old. New Iron Horse chairs were purchased in 2017. These chairs are rated for 600 lbs. and have a very long warranty period.

Dave Monty installed a device that mutes all background sound (scanner, radio, or television) when a telephone call comes into fire alarm or when the microphone on the FFD radios are keyed up.

### **AES Intellinet**

The Fitchburg Fire Department maintains the AES radio box system that monitors over 300 fire alarms throughout the city. The system continues to be an efficient and reliable means of monitoring fire protection devices and carbon monoxide detectors in homes, schools, offices and industry for both the department and its subscribers.

The alarm signals from subscribers' locations are transmitted by radio to our two receivers in the fire alarm room. This means there are no expensive telephone lines to lease. This system has been in operation for approximately 20 years, and this system continues to work very well.

### **IMC Dispatch System**

The IMC Computer Aided Dispatch system is at the core of dispatch and report writing for the Fitchburg Fire Department. Several initiatives have been undertaken to make the system more manageable, easier to use for dispatchers, and for it to contain the latest and best information for the Fitchburg Fire Dept.

Ultimate control of IMC system rests with the I.T. department. Occasionally we need to contact I.T. with issues but most problems are solved by myself or David Monty.

**Telephone System**

The telephone system at Headquarters, Summer St and the Oak Hill Stations was replaced by the I.T. department in November. Most of the switch over of the phone system went well but there are still some issues that need to be repaired going forward.

**Summary**

The Fitchburg Fire dispatchers continue to do a fantastic job. The dispatch is a place where injured firefighters can work while recovering from an injury. It's a benefit to the city to have a firefighter that would possibly be off the job due to an injury in the alarm doing work as a dispatcher.

Firefighters that work as dispatchers are one of the city's best resources. Whether it be a rookie firefighter eager to learn or veteran firefighter that has much knowledge and experience. Both are invaluable in the high pressure environment of the Fire/EMS dispatch.

Respectfully Submitted

Lt Richard Jollimore  
Fire Alarm Superintendent

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# FITCHBURG FIRE DEPARTMENT

## Fire Apparatus

### Deputy Chief Mitch Pinault



PHOTO BY: PHIL JORDAN

## Fire on Franklin Street, December 2nd, 2017

## Fire Apparatus Report 2017

The front line trucks are greatly improved with the addition of the new Engine 1. Engine 2 is the only front line truck with some reliability issues.

The Four rescues are all in good working order serving the city and surrounding communities well. Rescue 1 the 2016 Ferrara technical rescue vehicle is stocked and ready to handle any complex rescue, High angle, Trench rescue, Swift water, and Collapse. Rescue 3 is bringing patients to the hospital. Rescue 4 is the back up for Rescue 3. Rescue 2 is the Hazmat truck.

Engine 4, a 2015 KME Predator, has been in service for three years with some engine recalls but otherwise a reliable truck.

The 1997 Pierce Saber pumper Engine 5 failed the pump test and will need to be rebuilt.

The new mechanic/plow truck a 2017 Chevy Silverado arrived and is a great addition to the fleet.

Engine 3, a 1988 Mack, almost failed the last state inspection. The mechanic at the testing location stated it will not pass next year due to emissions. This truck should be decommissioned when a replacement arrives.

Engine 2 has Rot on the frame rails and some ongoing electrical issues. If and when we have the frame repaired a new wiring harness will fix many problems. This truck has become unreliable with a lot of problems and should be replaced as soon as possible.

The Engine 6 tanker had the pump and transfer case rebuilt.

The rest of the fleet, the tower ladders, CRT-1 vehicle, brush fire equipment, inflatable boat, and UTV are all in good working order.

Respectfully submitted,

Deputy Chief Mitch Pinault



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# FITCHBURG FIRE DEPARTMENT

## Firefighter Equipment

### Captain Brian Murchie

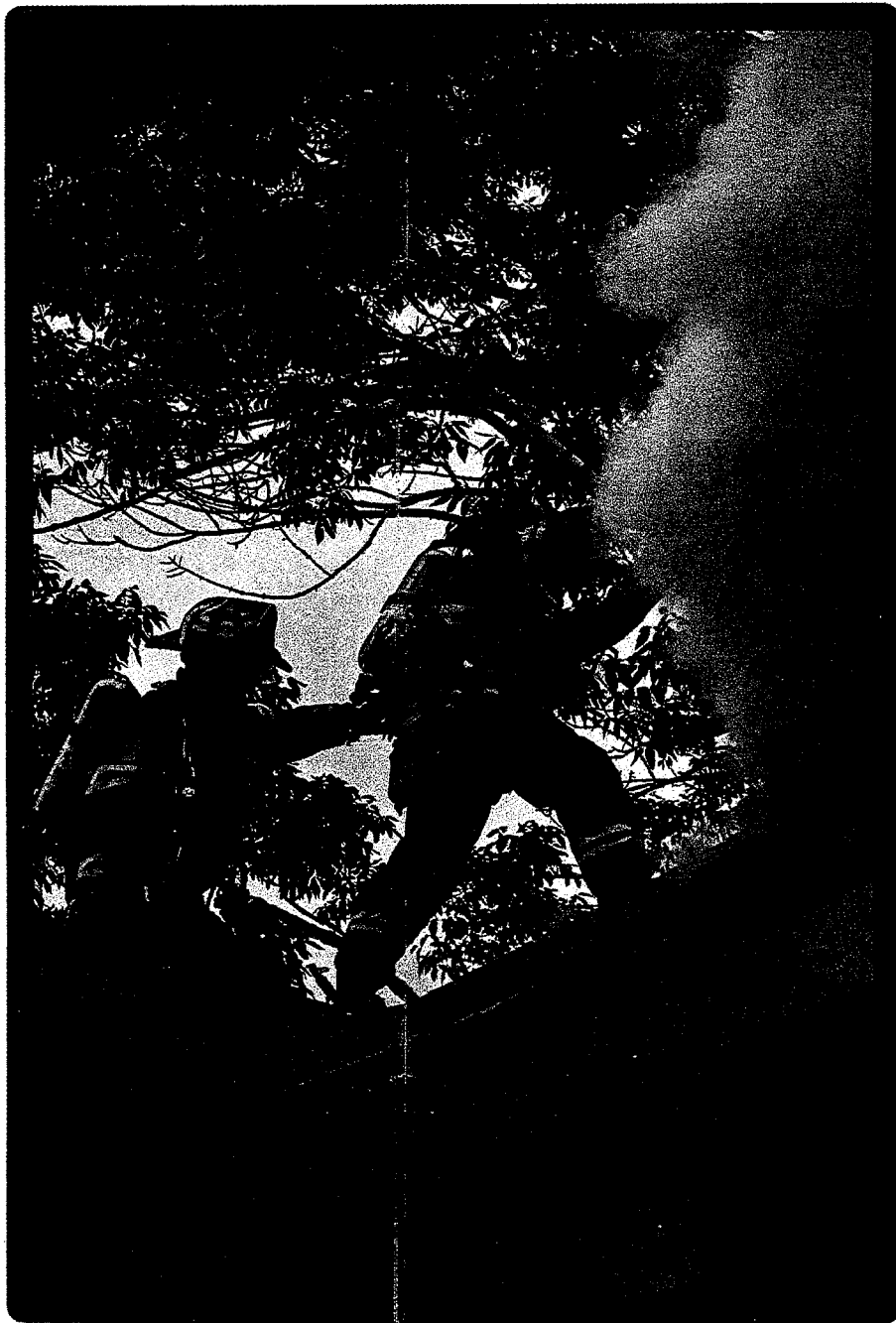


PHOTO BY: DAVE BRYCE

**Elm Street, June 18th, 2017**

## FIRE EQUIPMENT

The equipment used on the calls responded to by the Fitchburg Fire Department is relied on for both routine calls and those that impact the life and safety of its citizens. The equipment is constantly checked for effectiveness during daily, weekly, and annual inspections and maintenance. Adherence to this program helps ensure the equipment used holds up to the rigors of use in all kinds of conditions. Equipment undergoes a constant needs assessment to make sure we have the tools on hand to accomplish our mission.

The equipment is inspected for functionality and reliability on a daily and weekly basis. The benefits of these checks are twofold. Any issues discovered during these routine checks are addressed to ensure smooth operation. Secondly, the repetition brings familiarity of equipment to a young Department. The equipment on all frontline apparatus is checked on a daily basis. The equipment on all reserve apparatus is checked on a weekly basis.

During the month of August equipment undergoes annual maintenance. The annual maintenance program is designed to overhaul and clean all pieces of equipment in the Department's inventory. Equipment is painted and properly marked with the apparatus color code. Inventory lists for each piece of apparatus are then updated. In many cases this annual maintenance program ensures that the equipment entrusted to the Department goes well beyond its life expectancy. All aerial and ground ladders underwent annual certification testing in 2017 by a certified testing company. Worn rivets, end caps, and safety labels were replaced where indicated.

Contaminated protective gear exposes firefighters to potentially life-threatening chemicals, biological agents and particulate matter. If not dealt with properly, soiled protective gear can also pass on contaminants to the public at large. The key to limiting a firefighter's exposure to such hazards is proper decontamination of soiled gear, which after a fire, car accident, or similar event, can be laden with life-threatening chemicals, blood, body fluids, or particulate matter. In order to protect both firefighters and the public they serve, two washer/extractors were purchased. These washers are NFPA compliant and were placed at the Oak Hill and Summer Street Stations in 2016.

In 2017 NFPA compliant dryers were purchased and placed in all three stations.

In 2015 we replaced Engine 4's large diameter supply hose with a thousand feet of lightweight 4" hose. In 2016 Engine 1's large diameter was also replaced. In 2017 Engine 2 was outfitted with the new hose giving all three first line engines new supply hose. The new Storz connection couplings of the supply hose have a positive locking connection that will eliminate the possibility of hose disconnection during fire operations.

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Four new Flir thermal imaging cameras were purchased in 2017. This new generation of thermal imager has a much sharper image giving firefighters the ability to see details not seen in older versions.

In November of 2017 the Mayor appropriated and the city council approved funds for new jaws of life rescue tools to be purchased in the early part of 2018. The new tools will be NFPA 1936 compliant. Since the 2004-2006-time frame, vehicles have been manufactured using high strength steels and composite alloys that the older equipment in our inventory are not engineered to defeat. NFPA 1936 compliant equipment is engineered to safely, effectively, and efficiently extricate victims. The ultimate goal is faster extrication so patients can be transported to the hospital or trauma center sooner. A grant was written requesting new hydraulic rescue tools through the 2016 Assistance to Firefighters Grant. The grant request was not funded through the 2016 AFG. The grant request was rewritten and submitted for consideration in November for the 2017 AFG process.

Respectively submitted,

Captain Brian D. Murchie

**FITCHBURG FIRE DEPARTMENT**  
**Apparatus Maintenance**  
**Master Mechanic Nate Oliver**

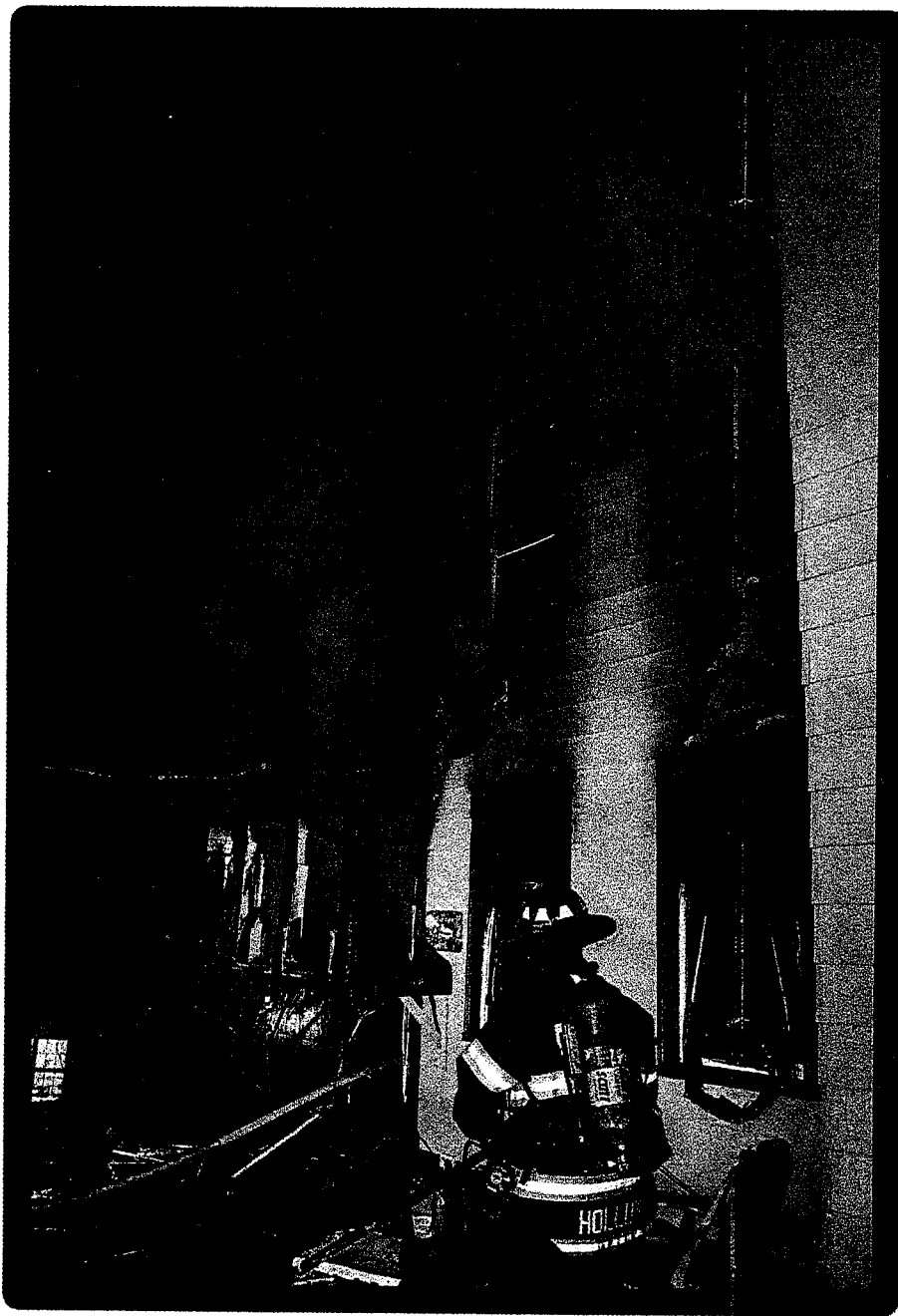


PHOTO BY: DAVE BRYCE

**West Street January 26, 2017**

## Maintenance of Apparatus 2017

I started in July of 2017, caught up on the maintenance schedule by years end and started learning each piece of equipment.

### Engine 1 – 2017 KME Panther 1750 GMP Pumper

- Involved in a minor MVA, still waiting to send to KME for repairs through ins.
- Service completed on schedule for the year.
- Windshield was damaged and replaced on Officer side.

### Engine 2 – 2004 Pierce Enforcer 1500 GMP Pumper

- Maintenance was caught up and is on schedule.
- Replaced muffler
- Replaced primer cable.
- Replaced primer motor.
- 4 new rear tires
- Had a very iffy and intermittent throttle, believed to be a bad relay, changed relay.
- Extensive repairs were made to the rear wiring harness for the vehicle emergency lighting and rear lights. <- apparatus was rewired again due to heavy corrosion on the repairs made the prior year.

### Engine 3 - 1988 Mack 1500 GMP Pumper

- Found sticky brake pedal, was able to get it unstuck and performed as normal.
- Service was performed and caught up to schedule.
- Took for an inspection and was informed it will no pass any more after the current sticker ('18)

### Engine 4 – 2015 KME Panther 1750 GMP pumper

- Took the engine to Coastal Idelease for warranty work for regen system
- Towed to Coastal for no power problem, replaced all 6 injectors, top hats and fixed oil consumption issue. <- developed exhaust leak after being at Coastal, clamp was not put back on.
- 4 new rear tires
- Service caught up to schedule

**Engine 5 1997 Pierce Saber 1500 GMP pumper**

- Officer Q2B pedal was repaired.
- Service was caught up to schedule
- Lights intermittent, still a work in progress.
- Failed pump test, RPM's were too high to reach desired psi.

**Engine 6 – 2006 KME 1250 GMP Pumper / Tanker**

- Sent to KME for pump repair, found burrs and a broken shift fork. The engine RPM's were lowered from 750 to 675 to aid in pump engagement.
- Service caught up to schedule

**Engine 7 – 2005 Ford F450 Brush Fire Truck**

- Service caught up to schedule.

**Tower Ladder 2 – 2003 Pierce 85 ft. Aerial Platform**

- 2 new front steer tires.
- Service caught up to schedule.
- Passed aerial test.

**Tower Ladder 3 – 2011 KME 102 ft. Aerial Platform**

- Sent to Coastal for regen work under warranty.
- Replaced front rear axle tire on officer side 2x due to slicing tire on curbs.
- Failed aerial test due to broken and missing bolts on outrigger. Sent to KME for boring and larger bolt installation as well as new outrigger pads.
- Service caught up to schedule.

**Rescue 1 – 2016 Ferrara Inferno Squad**

- Service caught up to schedule

**Rescue 2 Hazmat – 2007 International / KME**

- Battery disconnect switch faulty, tightened up connectors.
- Service caught up to schedule

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**Rescue 3 Ambulance – 2016 Ford F550**

- Sent to Mathieu Ford to replace carrier bearing under warranty.
- Rear steps damaged, had new one made.
- Service caught up to schedule
- 4 new tires on rear.

**Rescue 4 Ambulance – 2011 Ford F450**

- Repaired power cables for rear ambulance box.
- Service caught up to schedule

**10-C Chief – 2013 Ford Explorer**

- Service caught up to schedule.

**10-DC Deputy Chief – 2014 Ford Interceptor**

- Removed 4 nails in 2 tires.
- Service caught up to schedule

**C-9 Reserve Deputy Chief – 2005 Chevy Tahoe**

- Sent to Colonial for rotted brake line over fuel tank.
- Service caught up to schedule.

**S-1 Fire Alarm – 2005 Ford Explorer**

- Service caught up to schedule

**K-1 Fire Prevention Director – 2017 Ford Interceptor**

- Service caught up to schedule

**K-2 Fire Prevention Inspector – 2013 Ford Escape**

- Sent to Townsend Ford for door lock replacement under recall.
- Service caught up to schedule

**H-1 FEMA / Training – 2015 Ford Interceptor**

- Service caught up to schedule.

**M-3 Mechanic's Truck – 2017 Chevrolet 3500 Utility Body**

-Service caught up to schedule.

**FEMA F-1 – 2005 Ford Five Hundred**

-Service caught up to schedule

**FEMA F-2 – 2012 Ford F350 / Fan Truck**

-Service was caught up to schedule

**FEMA F-3 – 2005 Chevy 3500 Utility body**

-Replaced front and rear sending units, fuel gauge was intermittent.  
-Found rust throughout the fuel system, replaced HPF regulator, sensor, and fuel cooler.  
-Service caught up to schedule

**CRT-1 – 2005 Ford F450 Passenger Bus**

-Service caught up to schedule

**UTV – 2007 Polaris UTV**

-Nothing to report

**Fire Boat – 2013 Fire Safety Int'l open Boat**

-Nothing to report.

**Small Engine Equipment**

-All small engine work referred to Schofield's.

**Maintenance and Repair shop**

-New shelving was purchased and installed in petrol room.



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# FITCHBURG FIRE DEPARTMENT

## Dive Team

### Firefighter Kristopher Klein

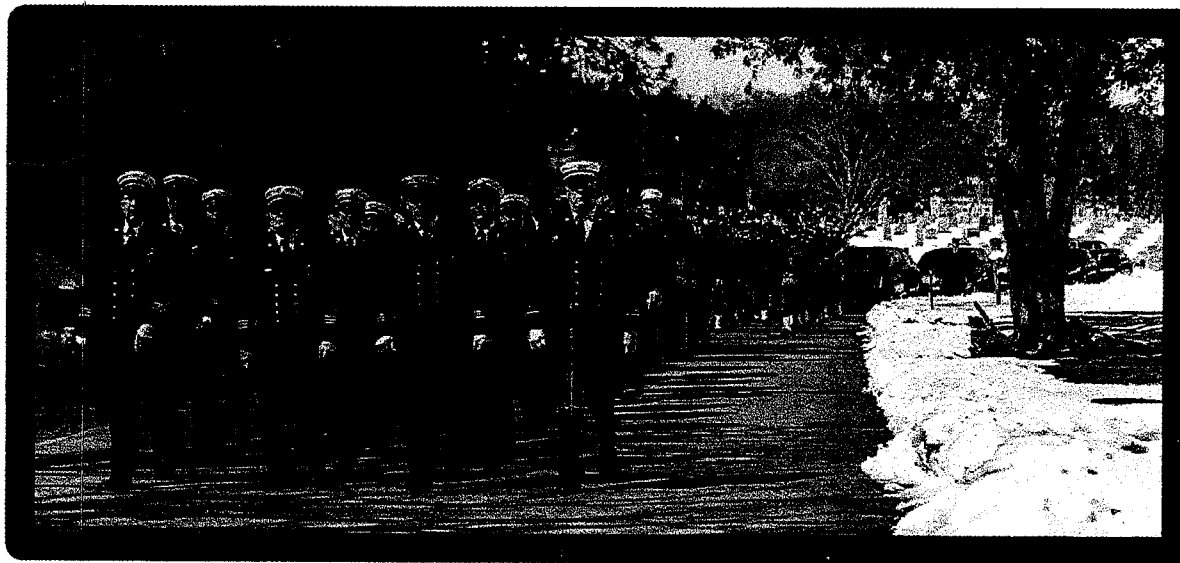
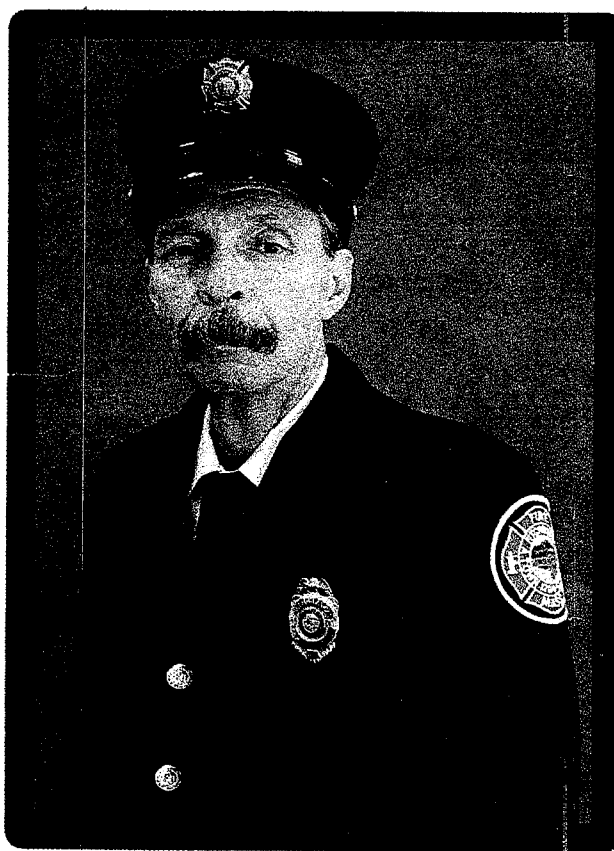


PHOTO BY: JIM MARABELLO



FFD PHOTO

Firefighters pay tribute to  
Firefighter John Mulcahy  
lost his battle with  
cancer in March of 2017  
after more than 40 years  
on the department.

Jack will never  
be forgotten

## DISTRICT 8 DIVE RESCUE TEAM

The Fitchburg divers are part of a district team consisting of squads from Fitchburg, Leominster, Lunenburg, Clinton, Holden, Barre, and Sterling Fire Departments. All members of the district team receive training and certification from the national certification agency Dive Rescue International. All members must obtain the certification of Dive Rescue I to operate as a diver or tender. Some divers further their training and obtain Dive Rescue II and Ice Diver to increase our abilities. These additional certifications allow divers to do light salvage using lift bags and dive beneath frozen bodies of water. Equipment is divided up between individual, department and team issued gear. All equipment is outfitted so that everything is compatible between departments.

This year was a busy year for the District 8 Dive Rescue Team. We continued trainings with our members and fellow district team members at different locations throughout our response area. By training at different bodies of water in our response area, we become familiar with the location, obstacles, and conditions in case we are called to it for an incident. This year we trained at Lake Whalom in Lunenburg, Sunset Lake in Ashburnham, and Bare Hill Pond in Harvard. This year the district team continued training with a side scan sonar and submersible camera, both of which are based with the Sterling Fire Department. The side scan sonar allows us to view objects under the water before we place a diver in the water. By utilizing this we can deploy a diver more accurately than placing a diver in the water to do a broad underwater sweep. In conjunction with the side scan sonar, the submersible camera we will be able to view on a monitor an object of interest that comes up on the sonar to determine if that object is what we are looking for. By the deployment of both pieces of equipment, we can locate, identify, and recover objects faster, safer, and less excursion to divers. The team also did further training in boat based searches and underwater recovery utilizing lift bags. We were able to successfully recover a purposefully sunk boat in zero visibility.

With last year's change in combining into the District 8 Mid State Technical Rescue Team, we opened up enrollment to members of other departments to join the team. We received a lot of interest and were able to put on 13 additional divers and 5 additional tenders. With these additions, we were able to secure funding through Homeland Security and hold a Dive Rescue 1 class to bring all these new personnel up to the minimum operating standard.

In addition, we have received in additional equipment to outfit all active divers with personal gear and additional SCUBA setups in order to deploy two complete teams from our cache.

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The District 8 Midstate Technical Rescue Dive Team is among one of the most trained and dedicated teams in our area. Each year we strive to improve and further our skills to better serve not just our community but for all the communities in our district response area.

Respectfully submitted,

Pvt Kristopher Klein  
Training Coordinator  
District 8 Technical Rescue Team  
Group 2/ Tower Ladder 3

\*\* Divers:, Lt Jack Gilmartin, Pvt Roger Ortiz, Pvt Dean Osgood, Pvt Kristy Pappas, Pvt Kristopher Klein, Pvt Timothy O'Kane, Pvt Jay Roy, Pvt Kenneth Hollums

\*\* Tenders: Lt Michael Gelinas, Captain Chad Courtemanche, Lt Patrick Roy, Pvt Sean Roy, Pvt Patrick Haverty, Pvt Matt Glenny, Pvt Kristopher Malliet

\*\* Support: Captain Anthony Marrama, Lt Richard Liberatore

**FITCHBURG FIRE DEPARTMENT**  
**Tech-Rescue Team**  
**Lt John Gilmartin**

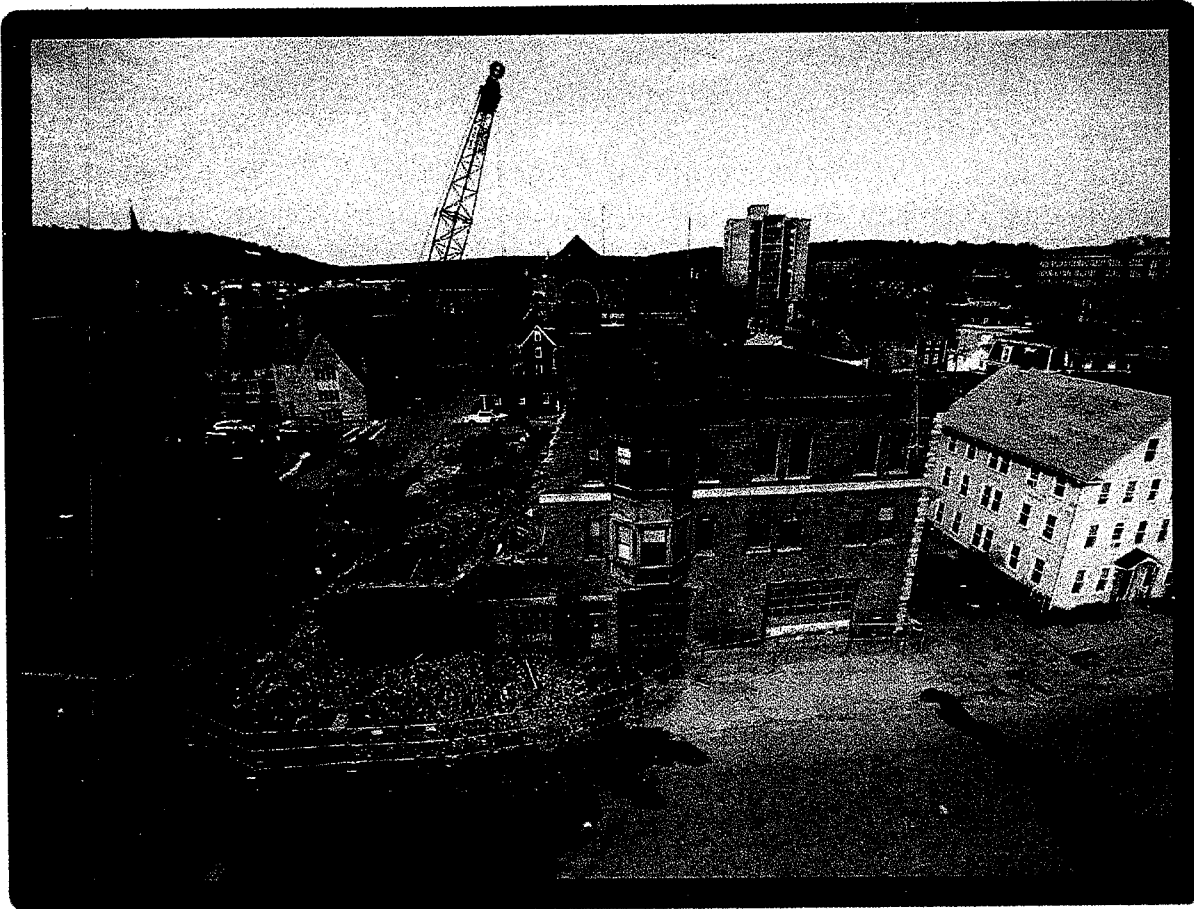


PHOTO BY: RICK JOLIMORE

**In 2017 we said good-bye to the old  
Fitchburg Central Fire Station that  
was built back in 1895**

## Technical Rescue Team

The Fitchburg Fire Department currently has 13 Firefighters who are active members of the District 8 Technical Rescue Team. This Team was implemented in 2015, after the State began evaluating areas throughout the Commonwealth that did not have the equipment, and Specialized training needed to respond to, and perform Technical Rescues that involve high angle Rope Rescue, Confined Space Rescue, Trench Rescue, Structural Collapse, and Swift Water Rescue.

This Regional Team includes Members from the Leominster, Lunenburg, Gardner, Sterling, Clinton, Ayer, Harvard, Devens, Westminster, Holden and Barre fire Departments. The Educational requirements for NFPA Certification in these five Disciplines requires several hundred hours of training per person through the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy.

The Specialized Equipment that was needed throughout the Region was Purchased through several Homeland Security Grants that have resulted in several hundreds of thousands of dollars being awarded that currently outfit Four Equipment Cache's that are strategically located throughout Fire District 8. One of these Caches of equipment is located at Fitchburg Fire Headquarters on Rescue 1. Fitchburg Fire was able to purchase this vehicle in 2016 as the result of Federal Assistance to Firefighters Grant that was awarded to the Department for \$450,000. This vehicle was custom designed for the Specific needs of Technical Rescue and Dive Team Operations.

2017 was an active year for our members. In April of 2017, 5 Fitchburg Firefighters attended Structural Collapse training that was also funded Through Homeland Security. This intense classroom and practical training was held over 8 consecutive 10 hour days in Devens. The training was taught by Spec Rescue out of Florida, and the instructors all serve on Federal FEMA urban Search and Rescue Task Force Teams throughout the Country.

5 Fitchburg Fire Department Technical Rescue members also attended a Four day advanced Swift water Technician level course in Western Mass. This training will prove extremely valuable in our ability to rescue victims who may fall into the Nashua River or any other moving body of water in our response district.

In September, the District 8 team including Fitchburg Firefighters was invited to participate in the annual MOBEX disaster drill held at Joint Base Cape Cod. This exercise tested each State Technical Rescue regional Teams capabilities to perform Urban Search and Rescue and Recovery evolutions following a simulated natural disaster associated with a direct hit from a Hurricane. In this exercise, Crews worked in 12 hour shifts with multiple Agencies and the National Guard over a 4 day period.

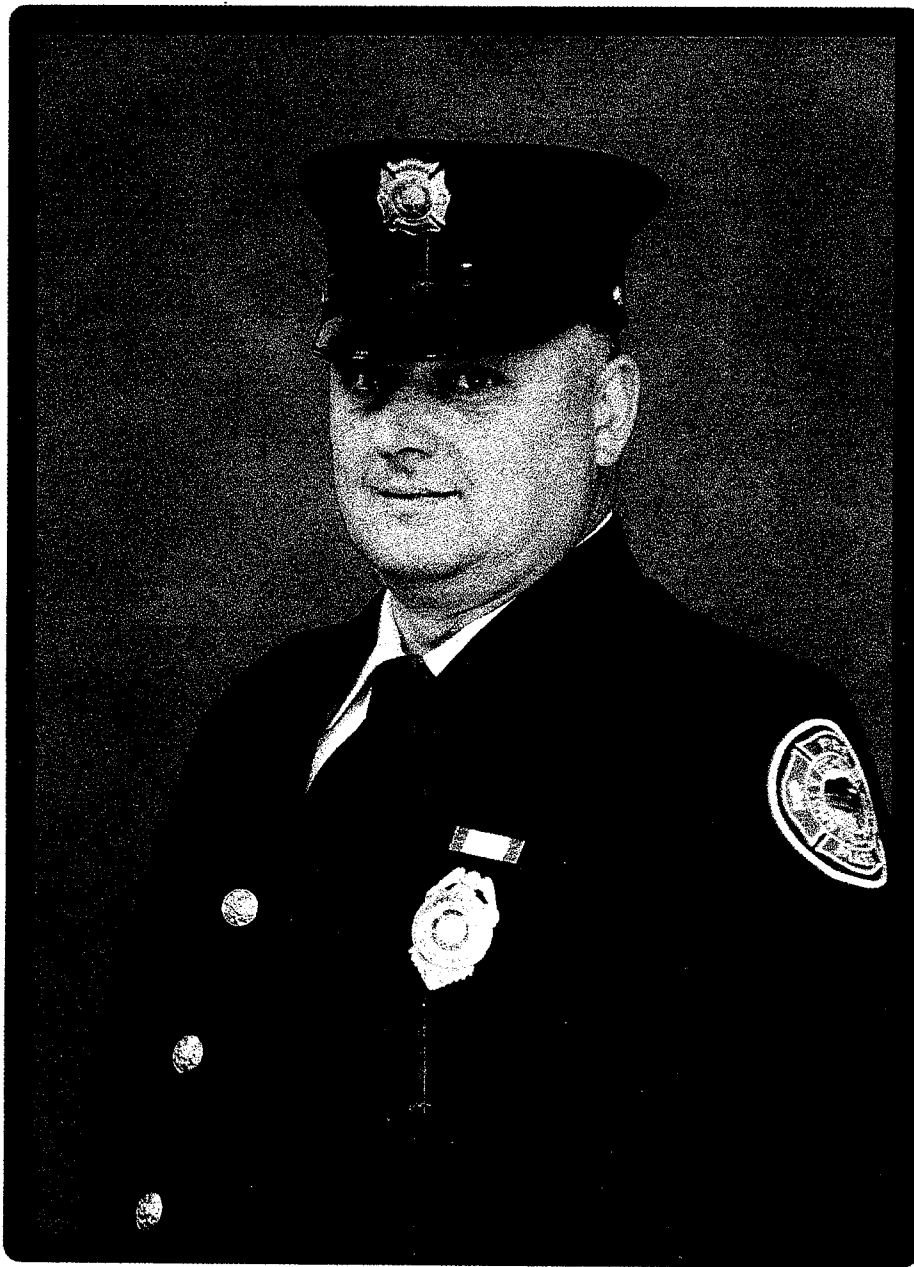
The goal for 2018 will be to maintain mandatory monthly training requirements for all active members to ensure the highest level of competency within each discipline. Technical

Rescues are High Risk Low frequency events that require the constant maintenance of skills to be able to deliver these services safely and professionally to the residents of the City of Fitchburg and the surrounding Communities.

Respectfully Submitted  
Lieutenant Jack Gilmartin  
Special Operations Coordinator

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**FITCHBURG FIRE DEPARTMENT**  
**S.C.B.A.**  
**Deputy Chief Gregg Normandin**



FFD PHOTO

**Firefighter Scott MacArthur retired after 29  
years of service.**

## **S.C.B.A. EQUIPMENT**

The Fitchburg Fire Department inventory of Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus consists of:

- (39) 4500 psi. Scott 50, 45 Minute S.C.B.A. with Mask Mounted Regulator, Heads up Display, Universal Air Connection, Emergency Breathing Support System and Integrated P.A.S.S.
- (1) 4500 psi. "H" type cylinder mounted to Tower Ladder 2, which enables the Firefighters working in the Tower Bucket to tie their S.C.B.A. facepieces into the (2) outlets mounted inside the bucket.
- (83) 4500 psi. 45 Minute air cylinders used for firefighting operations.
- (2) 4500 psi. 1 hour cylinder in a R.I.T. kit to assist downed Firefighters trapped in a building.
- (4) 4500 psi. 1 hour air cylinders used for Haz-mat operations.
- (4) 4500 psi. Scott 50, 60 Minute S.C.B.A. with Mask Mounted Regulator, Heads up Display, Universal Air Connection, Emergency Breathing Support System and Integrated P.A.S.S. to be used for Haz-Mat Operations.
- (4) 4500 psi. Scott 4.5, 30 Minute S.C.B.A. with Mask Mounted Regulator, donated by the Gardner MA Fire Dept. to be used as spare units as necessary.

The face pieces used with these S.C.B.A.'s are the ultra-view type, which enable the user to have a wider field of vision when working in a life-threatening environment.

Thirty one (31) Scott 50 S.C.B.A. were purchased within the 2005 calendar year to replace the MSA units that the Dept. previously used for several years. An additional (6) Scott 50 S.C.B.A. were purchased in 2008 to replace the remaining MSA units.

Two (2) Scott 50 S.C.B.A. were purchased in 2011 to replace the MSA units that were on the Special Operations Truck. Those, along with (2) S.C.B.A. re-assigned from other non-firefighting units now make up the (4) S.C.B.A. used for Haz-Mat Incidents.

Four (4) 4500 psi. 1 Hour Cylinders were purchased in February of 2012 to replace the 45 minute cylinders in the S.C.B.A. used for Haz-Mat Operations.

Four (4) 4500 psi. 45 Minute S.C.B.A. were purchased within the 2016 calendar year to be placed on the new Rescue 1, to be used for Technical Rescue Operations as well as for Fire Scene Overhaul operations.



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All S.C.B.A. were flow tested on November 21 & 22, 2017.

Our current S.C.B.A. compressor/cascade system was upgraded in July 2007 with (4) 5200 psi. Cylinder's, adding to the current (4) 5200 psi. cylinder's, greatly increasing our storage capacity, allowing our current larger capacity cylinders to be re-filled without running low on air before they are filled. These 4 cylinders were hydrostatically tested in November 2017.

This compressor/cascade system was purchased in 1993 to replace our antiquated 2500 psi. system, as we upgraded to 3000 psi. and then 4500 psi. Cylinders. The compressor has malfunctioned several times over the years and is in need of replacement by a 6000 psi. system to be able to keep up with the demand of our current S.C.B.A. and any future S.C.B.A. that we purchase. A Federal Grant request has been submitted several times to replace this aging compressor and has since been refused.

A new 6000 psi. S.C.B.A. compressor was ordered using City funds on August 10, 2017. We are currently waiting on delivery in early 2018.

On January 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> 2017, the members of the Fitchburg Fire Dept. conducted annual re-training on S.C.B.A. and P.A.S.S. as per N.F.P.A. 1404, Fire Service Respiratory Training, N.F.P.A. 1982, Personal Alert Safety Systems, and N.F.P.A. 1852, Selection, Care, and Maintenance of Open Circuit Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus, as well as RIT Kit use and operation.

Respectfully submitted,

Deputy Chief Gregg Normandin  
S.C.B.A. Officer

# **FITCHBURG FIRE DEPARTMENT**

## **Inspections**

### **D.C. Gregg Normandin**



**Fire crews visit the schools during  
October for fire prevention month**

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## Commercial/Industrial/School Inspections 2017 Annual Report

During the 2017 calendar year, Fitchburg Fire Department suppression personnel conducted the following Commercial/Industrial and School Inspections.

Mercantile/Commercial/Industrial;	423
Public/Private School Quarterly;	130

Fire Suppression Personnel issued eight (12) Fire Code Violations which were forwarded to the Fire Prevention Division.

Respectfully submitted,  
Deputy Chief Gregg Normandin  
Fire Code Inspection Supervisor

**FITCHBURG FIRE DEPARTMENT  
S.A.F.E. Program  
Lt. Philip Jordan**



PHOTO BY: RICK JOLLIMORE

**Fitchburg Central Fire Headquarters on  
September 11, 2017**

## FITCHBURG FIRE: S.A.F.E / Senior S.A.F.E Year-End Narrative Report 2017 (Includes Fire Phil program)

### Student S.A.F.E.

This year as in years past, our *goal* for the SAFE program was to target the *first grade* age group. We taught about all aspects of "Fire Safety" as well as the dangers of smoking. With cooperation from our public and private school system we were able to fulfill our goal. Our lesson plan was multi-cultural and entertaining as well as touching on their musical senses. We entered 6 schools and 20 individual classrooms with question and lecture about *safety in the home* using the "Tools @ Toys" technique. We showed the video "Be Cool about Fire Safety" which had great safety slogans that the kids remembered like: "Don't Hide-Go Outside", "Fall and Crawl", and the classic "Stop-Drop-and Roll" to name a few. We then reviewed by question and answer to evaluate and reaffirm what the class learned. Dressing in full turnout gear, with face piece is always done to instill a security image, instead of fear, when viewing a firefighter in action. To lighten the fear to students, we picked a class helper to dress in our authentic *child size* turnout gear (complete with SCBA). Upon completion, we walked around the room and had everyone give us a high "five" slap to show that they were not afraid. We strengthened the bond between firefighter and teacher by explaining the fact that learning continues after we leave the classroom. We explain that the teacher is our friend and a resource for all safety questions that may arise.

Our 2<sup>nd</sup> phase of training was about 1 to 2 months later using the SAFE trailer. We brought the trailer to 6 schools to educate 20 classrooms with "*LIVE*" Safety demonstrations. This was more evaluative in what the students saw and how they reacted to: 911, matches and lighters, careless disposal (flaming trash barrel), candle safety, electrical cords, electricity around water, toaster and iron safety, microwaves and metal, oven and cooking hazards, and dangers of smoking. We topped the program off by having a student demonstrate the life saving techniques we learned in the classroom of "Stop, Drop, and Roll". After discussion we actually had a hurricane simulation and escaped a smoke filled room. Added scent to the smoke makes it smell like a real burning fire. Teaching with the trailer is more like a Disney attraction with all the new props and improvements.

The children we evaluated were brilliant. Minor confusion between Stop, Drop & Roll and Fall and Crawl so we added a student helper (Stop, Drop, Roll) demonstration in the SAFE Trailer. Both the students, and teachers seemed more intent to learn about the EXIT signs (In public places) and the small arrow markings on the side. Teacher evaluations were all positive with no negative remarks and few suggestions.

We totaled 20 individual classroom teachings of around 516 kids. We followed this up with 21 SAFE trailer classes with the same children. We also assisted with 10 additional Safety presentations in 6 schools in cooperation with the Fire Phil Program which is a *private* fire

education program local to Fitchburg.

We performed satisfactory in public events which totaled 12 : (10 Senior-events) & (2 Kids events). We performed (2) community events using trailer, (3) with fire apparatus, (3) Safety Booth at safety awareness events, (4) At Senior Center or seniors own home. New partnerships formed with : Fitchburg High School, Fitchburg Resource Fair, Fitchburg Senior center, National Night Out, as well as past alliances with Mason's (FD Safety Day) and the Airport Commission. Not to leave out neighboring Fire Departments in need of help.

Fitchburg Fire donates a lot of time in repair and props to make this trailer a better teaching tool. Through help from the Chiefs association and the Safe Trailer Maintenance Grant we will continue to keep the trailer updated and modern. The Chiefs Association has been supportive to our district program and WE THANK THEM!

The Chief of the department always gives of his own budget to solidify the Fire Prevention commitment to the city of Fitchburg. The Chief, all instructors, teachers and kids, made this an incredibly rewarding year.

Thank you to all who made 17 a SAFE year!  
Lt. Phil Jordan     SAFE Program Coordinator

### Senior SAFE

The Fitchburg Fire Senior SAFE Program 2017 was a continued success in the city due to the Senior SAFE grant. Senior SAFE educators will continue to work with the Fire Prevention office to evaluate the new educational lesson plans and review periodicals to hand out. The first few years were successful as the program was new, but I see a drop off in attendance as the program continues. I have changed my focus to educational opportunities around larger senior oriented – COMMUNITY EVENTS (Senior Citizen Center – Health Fairs – Service Workshops). I find my numbers being reached are vastly improved but my audience age group is wider. The Chief of the department has asked me to concentrate on the (Elderly) High rises due to past issues locally. Fitchburg has (5) high rises and we will schedule to those who want the class. No smoke alarm installations due to **local hard-wire code**.

I feel visual props with lecture was a great part in our training.

**Smoke/Carbon Monoxide detectors**- explaining early detection is key for the extra time needed for the safe and orderly exit.

**Kitchen fire extinguisher**- To “remind” the dangers of grease fires and how to properly extinguish if capable. (New) Promote (Fire-Safe) magnetic hood-mount extinguisher in a can.

**Candles (old vs. new)** - We will show the open flame “Bad boys” and offer some new suggestions with technology. LED candles. Some folks prefer the scented candles. We would like to show and promote the heavy, glass encased candles, as well as safety techniques in their use. There is new technology of heating plates for your candle that give off the scent without a flame. Also scented plug in units. (New) Candle Toppers that melt the wax – creating long flames out of the jar – now we have to cut wicks.

**Kitchen Devices (coffee pot)**- New technology for those who forget to turn off their hot cup of “Joe”. New devices actually drop the coffee into a thermos with no heating plate at all. No more burnt coffee or hot plate hazards.

**“Vial of Life”**, medication lists, DNR’s- Explanations of Fitchburg guidelines for emergency care. We will research and devise some recommendations for our elderly as to the placement and recovery of medical information and records that directly affect their medical conditions. Where these items will be displayed will be determined by our own city protocol which we will have to build. Up to now the refrigerator door has been a first place of observation. Possibly handouts.

**Slip and fall devices**- We will research and show new products in relation to their safety regarding slips and falls in bathrooms and abroad.

**Alert Notifications**- Medical alert devices, labeling of apartment doors (including Oxygen use), and a partnering or “buddy” system with a neighbor for frequent checks or assistance in an actual

emergency. We discussed different types of detectors for visual or auditory ailments and talked about *larger* button 911 phones.

The Fire Prevention SAFE Instructors performed (4) Educational visits to elderly facilities and (6) educational visits with community events to bring our safety messages close to their homes. It gave us the ability to see and hear "first hand" the layouts, and living conditions they are in. We estimate around 350 seniors reached by Fire SAFE Instructors.

**Key Fire/Fall Behaviors Taught:**

- **Dangers and uses of tobacco products**
- **Matches/ Lighter/ Candle safety**
- **Electrical safety/ discussions-demo of 9volt battery arcs (Trash chute fires) Local**
- **Smoke & CO detectors / Local- Protection in place guidelines**
- **Telephone/ 911/ Life alert**
- **Exits: How to exit from their own facility/ Disabilities/ Buddy systems**
- **Preparedness: Back up battery for phone, LED battery lights, Medications handy**
- **Space heaters: Dangers and use of**
- **Cooking: We targeted (Grease) fires / Unattended cooking / Safe Practices**
- **Fire Extinguishers: Locations of / How to choose & How to use**

Thank you to all who made 17 a SENIOR SAFE year!

Lt. Phil Jordan     SAFE Program Coordinator



Annual Report  
Fitchburg Fire  
Department  
Year 2017

# **FITCHBURG FIRE DEPARTMENT**

## **Haz-Mat Rescue**

### **Captain Roberto Alicea**



PHOTO BY: RICK JOLLIMORE

**Mayor Dinatale along with  
firefighters show off two of  
Fitchburg's newest apparatus,  
Engine 1 and Rescue 1**

## HAZMAT RESCUE 2 2017 ANNUAL REPORT

Rescue 2 is the Fitchburg fire department Hazardous Materials Unit and is readily available to respond to Hazmat incidents in the City of Fitchburg and as a mutual aid company to surrounding towns. Rescue 2, is equipped with all the necessary equipment to mitigate a Hazmat incident at the Hazmat awareness level, and it can be used as a lighting plant at any incident. In the fall of 2017, the rescue alive sled was added to Rescue 2 and it can be dispatched to any ice and water incident within the city. Rescue 2 can also be used as a back up to Rescue 1 at rescue incident scene.

Some of the equipment available on Rescue 2 for a Hazmat incident include, Level A encapsulating suits and garments required for entry into a Hazardous material environment (Hot Zone). SCBA 60 minute rated bottles used with Level A encapsulating suits. Level B encapsulating/non-encapsulating and level C suits with garments, used mainly for decontamination operations. Pools, plastic sheathing, brushes, sprayers, used to set up a decontamination area (Warm Zone). Other equipment you will find on Rescue 2 are, Stokes basket, back boards, sked, power saws, portable benches and many other equipment necessary for a Hazmat incident. Primarily Rescue 2 is used for hazmat incidents but it can be used for ice and water incidents as well. The Rescue Alive Sled along with 2-200ft of rope can also be found on Rescue 2 as part of added equipment.

Most of the on duty fire fighters are certified at the Hazmat awareness level and are required to take a 24 hour Hazmat refresher that is broken down into 4 separate classes during the year. Four fire fighters are certified to the Hazmat Technician level, which is over a 300 hour course. Two out of the four Hazmat Techs are on the State Hazmat Team and can respond to Hazmat incidents anywhere in the state.

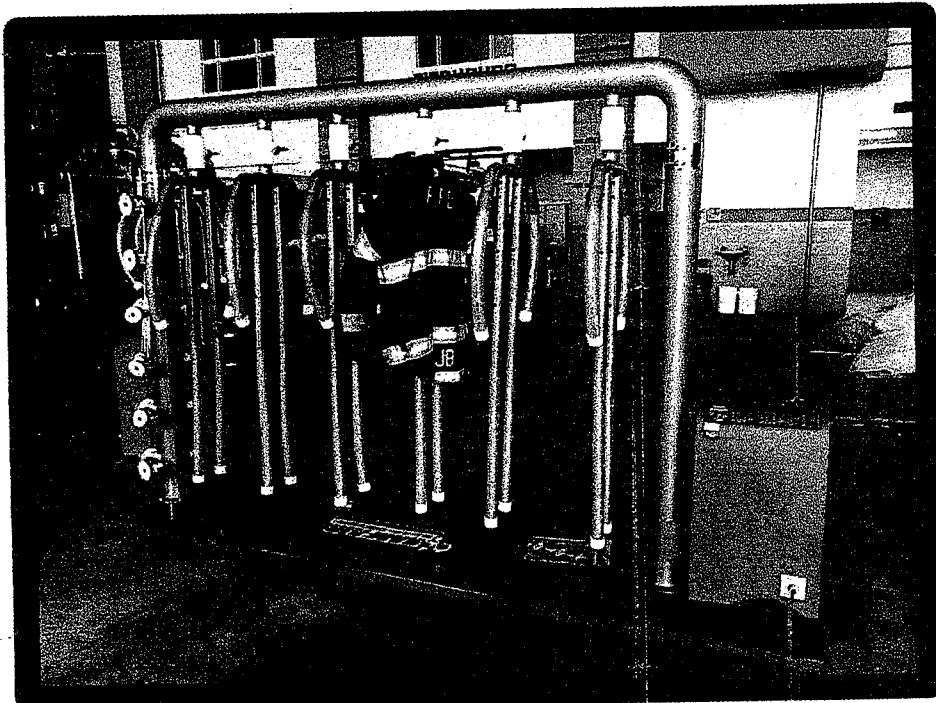
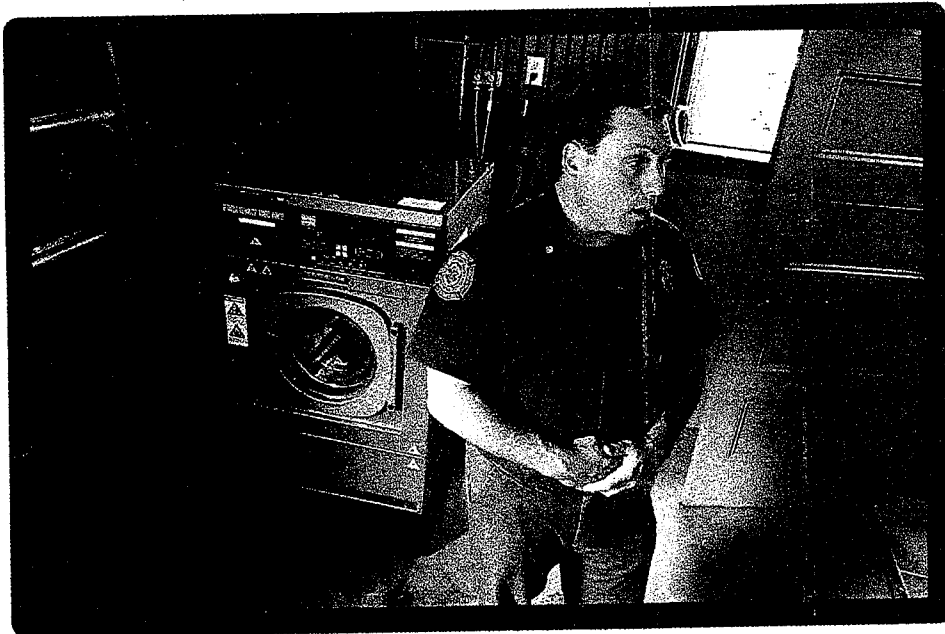
Every year the department conducts a mock Hazmat drill, and this year the drill was conducted with the OMNOVA company, a chemical manufacturer located on Authority Drive, Fitchburg. The scenario for the Hazmat drill was of a known chemical spill inside the building. As an employee mixed two known chemicals, the chemical reaction caused the chemical to splash on the employee causing him to trip onto the floor. The fall broke his leg and was overcome by the toxic fumes. Fitchburg fire responded with 1 Deputy, 3 Engines, 1 Tower ladder, Rescue 2 and Rescue 3 to the scene. The deputy was briefed by the onsite staff of the situation and he ordered an entry team in level A suits for rescue operations. Once crews evacuated the patient from the building, the patient was immediately put through gross decon and was transported to the hospital by ambulance. The mock exercise worked out great for everyone involved and it served as great learning tool for future unforeseeable hazmat incidents.

Annual Report  
Fitchburg Fire  
Department  
Year 2017

With the reality of the many threats from terrorist and organized groups, the world we live in is full of uncertainties. The chance of a terrorist attack is inevitable. Let's hope this never happens in our city but if it does, I can assure you that the Fitchburg Fire department will be prepared.

Respectfully submitted,

Captain Roberto A. Alicea



**The Fitchburg Fire Department  
would like to extend a special  
thank you to Lt Patrick Roy and  
all the people that donated  
money to allow the purchase of  
the new fire gear dryers**

Reports of  
Committees

## Finance Committee

## REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Finance CommitteeMeeting of February 27, 2018

The Finance Committee recommended the following Order be adopted:

018-18. ORDERED THAT: There be and hereby is transferred from within the sum of THIRTY THOUSAND AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$30,000.00) same to be transferred from ASSESSOR, PERSONAL SERVICES, DEPARTMENT HEAD and credited to ASSESSOR EXPENSES, CONTRACTED SERVICES.

Report read and accepted. Order adopted by vote of 10 in favor and 1 opposed (Beauchemin). 11 members present. Board consists of 11 members.

Order signed by the Mayor March 7, 2018.

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The Finance Committee recommended the following Order be adopted:

028-18. ORDERED THAT: The City Council, by majority vote pursuant to G.L. c. 4, §4, adopt the provisions of G.L. c. 64N, §3 to impose a local sales tax on the sale or transfer of marijuana or marijuana products by a marijuana retailer operating within the city or town to anyone other than a marijuana establishment at the rate of up to three (3%) percent of the total sales price received by the marijuana retailer as a consideration for the sale of marijuana or marijuana products, the rate to be specified by City Ordinance.

Report read and accepted. Order adopted by unanimous vote. 11 members present. Board consists of 11 members.  
Order signed by the Mayor March 7, 2018.

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The Finance committee recommended the following Order be adopted:

029-18. ORDERED THAT: The Honorable Mayor Stephen DiNatale is authorized on behalf of the City of Fitchburg to facilitate and execute the attached Community Host Benefit agreement with Atlantic Medical Partners located at 774 Crawford Street, Fitchburg, MA.

Report read and accepted. Order adopted by vote of 8 in favor and 3 opposed (Kaddy, Beauchemin, Donnelly). 11 members present. Board consists of 11 members.  
Order signed by the Mayor March 7, 2018.

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The Finance Committee recommended the following Order be adopted:

030-18. ORDERED THAT: The City of Fitchburg accepts a deed in lieu of foreclosure for municipal charges and taxes for the real property located at 116-118 Day Street.

Report read and accepted. Order adopted by unanimous vote. 11 members present. Board consists of 11 members.  
Order signed by the Mayor March 7, 2018.

**Legislative Affairs Committee**  
**Meeting of February 27, 2018**

The Legislative Affairs Committee recommended the following  
Petitions be granted:

- 024-18. Stephen Curry, Board of Health Director, to amend that attached Petition #165-13 (Intermunicipal Agreement between municipalities participating in the Montachusett Public Health Network, 11 cities and towns, desiring to share key public health services and the costs associated with these services) to include language to add additional municipalities in the agreement.
- 025-18. Stephen Curry, Board of Health Director, to approve the attached Intermunicipal Agreement between municipalities participating in the Montachusett Public Health Network desiring to share key public health services and costs associated with these services. This agreement will be utilized for new municipalities approval to participate.

Report read and accepted. Petitions granted by unanimous vote.  
11 members present. Board consists of 11 members.

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The Legislative Affairs Committee recommended the following  
Petition be amended to: Amend the language of the City Code and  
be granted as amended:

- 226-17. Councillor Dean A. Tran and Councillor Angelo Bisol,  
to establish guidelines and requirements for the City  
Council involvement in Mayoral appointments under City  
Code chapter 3-4.

Report read and accepted. Petition granted as amended by  
unanimous vote. 11 members present. Board consists of 11  
members.

Petition forwarded to the City Solicitor for Ordinance  
Preparation.

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The Legislative Affairs recommended the following Petition be  
granted:

- 319-17. Jeffrey Wolfgang, co-chair, Disability Commission, to  
Petition City Council to amend Fitchburg  
Ordinance Chapter 3 Article XXIV Section 3-267.

Report read and accepted. Petition granted by unanimous vote.  
11 members present. Board consists of 11 members.  
Petition forwarded to the City Solicitor for Ordinance  
Preparation.

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Orders-Finance

**ORDERS-FINANCE**

The following Order was referred to the Finance Committee:

043-18. ORDERED THAT: The City of Fitchburg hereby approves the expenditure of funds from the Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security grant in the approximate amount of \$55,000.00 (FIFTY-FIVE THOUSAND AND 00/100 DOLLARS) for the purpose of said grant, which is to support the Domestic Violence Advocate position within the Police Department.

**ORDER-OTHER**

Order-Other

The following Order was referred to the Planning Board:

050-18. ORDERED THAT: The City of Fitchburg discontinue and abandon any and all public interests in a portion of Westminster Hill Road as outlined in the enclosed Order.  
(Reference Petition #114-17)

WHEREAS, in the opinion of the City Council of the City of Fitchburg common convenience and necessity require that a portion of Westminster Hill Road should be discontinued as a public street or way of the City, under the provisions of law so authorizing from a point more clearly described on the attached plan to another point more clearly described on the attached plan said plan entitled "Plan of Land Discontinuance of a portion of Westminster Hill Road between Points 16 - 22 " prepared for the City of Fitchburg on November 27, 2017 by Ducharme and Dilois, Civil Design Group Inc., and

WHEREAS, the City Council duly referred this proposed discontinuance to the Planning Board which filed its report concurring in the discontinuance of Westminster Hill Road as aforesaid,

WHEREAS, a public hearing, in the manner prescribed by law, has been duly held in connection with the proposed discontinuance of this street, it is therefore

ORDERED that a portion of Westminster Hill Road be, and it hereby is, discontinued as a public way and street of the City of Fitchburg, under the provisions of law and according to the plan and profile of Westminster Hill Road, signed by the Commissioner of Public Works, dated \_\_\_\_\_ and recorded in the offices of the Commissioner as Plan and Profile No. \_\_\_\_\_ which plan and profile is hereby made part hereof, said plan to be recorded in the Office of the City Clerk Worcester North Registry of Deeds.

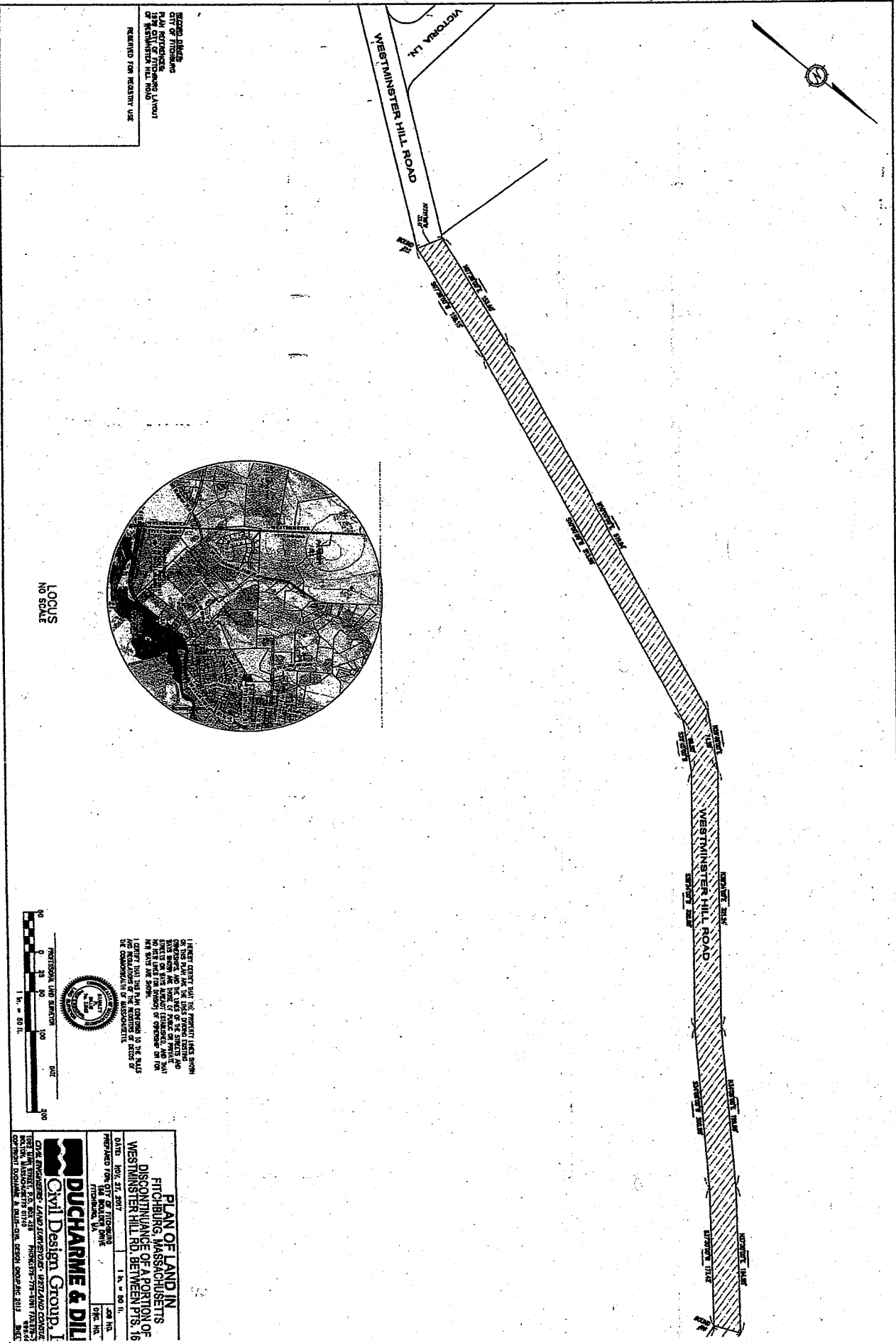
IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, That common convenience and necessity require that the City of Fitchburg discontinue and abandon any and all public interests and rights in the portion of Westminster Hill Road hereinafter described on Attachment "A", annexed hereto and made a part hereof, and the same is hereby discontinued as a public street or way or other public right of way in the City of Fitchburg

For description of land see the plan attached.

Order-Other

Also, as a further condition and part of this Order is that, upon the abandonment and discontinuance herein, the abutting owners to the mid-line of said abandoned area shall henceforth be referred to the Board of Assessors for assessment purposes by them, and

A further condition of said Order shall be recorded forthwith at the Worcester North District Registry of Deeds.





Ordinance

ORDINANCE

051-18. A stop sign shall be installed at the intersection of Vernon and Sanborn Street.  
(Reference Petition #297-17)

A stop sign shall be installed at the intersection of Vernon and Sanborn Street.

Section 169-76 of the City Code, titled "Stop intersections" shall be amended by striking the word "South" under the "Direction of Travel" column in the line beginning "Sanborn Street" in regards to its intersection at "Vernon Street" and inserting in its place "Both."

- (1) By striking the word "South" and inserting the word "Both" under the "Direction of Travel" column.

The resulting amendment will read as follows:

In accordance with the provisions of MGL c. 89, § 9, the following streets are designated as stop streets at the intersections indicated:

Stop Sign on Intersection of	Direction of Travel	At
Sanborn Street	Both	Vernon Street

Ordinance was passed to a first and second reading and ordered advertised by unanimous vote. 11 members present. Board consists of 11 members.

City of Fitchburg,

March 6, 2018

Petitions

**PETITIONS**

The following Petition was referred to the City Property Committee:

- 044-18. Councilors Squailia and Zarrella, and David Thibault-Munoz, to postpone the listing of the 116-118 Day Street property to the side yard sales program in order to explore the possibility of creating a Pocket Park to honor Abolitionist Benjamin Snow.

**TO THE HONORABLE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FITCHBURG**

Ladies and Gentlemen:

The undersigned Petition your Honorable Body to

Postpone listing of the vacant lot at 116 Day Street for the *Side Yard Sales Program*, in order to explore the possibility of creating a Historic Pocket Park to honor Fitchburg abolitionist Benjamin Snow at the location, as proposed by Mount Wachusett Community College students in David Thibault-Munoz's Freshman Year Experience (FYE 101) class.

Background: Last summer, David Thibault-Munoz's FYE 101 students conducted historical research on the Fitchburg's connection to the movement to abolish slavery in the United States, particularly as it relates to Benjamin Snow's activism in the 1850-60s. Mill owner and abolitionist Benjamin Snow's 3 acre property extended from Green to Pearl streets in the south and north and Blossom and North streets from the east and west side of the college neighborhood. The Snow residence hosted several famous abolitionists while on their speaking tours in the area. Such prominent leaders included Frederick Douglas, William Lloyd-Garrison, Lucy Stone, the Grimske sisters, Wendell Phillips, Henry Clarke-Wright, and Theodore Dwight-Weld. Snow's home also served as a depot on the Underground Railroad; two famous former slaves that he and his family helped to freedom were Josiah Henson, the person that the book Uncle Tom's Cabin was based on and Shadrach Minkins, who escaped re-enslavement after the passage of the Fugitive Slave Act in 1850. Each semester, David's FYE class has continued work on the project.

2018 MAR -1 AM 8:44  
FITCHBURG CITY CLERK

Petitions

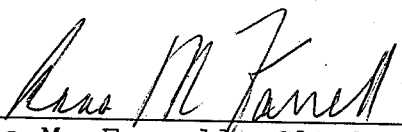
The following Petitions were referred to the Public Safety Committee:

- 045-18. Councilors Elizabeth Walsh and Marcus DiNatale, along with resident Mary Fritz, to install electronic speed signage or electronic yield/go slow signage at the intersection of Rollstone Road and Brittany Lane, facing traffic coming from Fifth MA Tpke.
- 046-18. Councilors Joel Kaddy and Marcus DiNatale, to preferably install stop signs at the intersection of Fifth Mass Tpke. and Franklin Road. However, in the event stop signs are not deemed to be necessary, re-installation of the traffic mirror at this intersection must be done.
- 047-18. Councilor Marisa Fleming, to remove the "Do Not enter" sign at the corner of Myrtle Ave. and Main Street. Also put a "No Left Hand Turn" on Main Street onto Myrtle Ave. in front of the old Harper furniture building.

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The following Petitions were referred to the Public Works Committee:

- 048-18. Councilors Elizabeth Walsh and Marcus DiNatale, along with resident Mary Fritz, to erect jersey barriers at the corner of 400 Rollstone Road (intersection of Rollstone road and Brittany Lane) to mitigate frequent motor vehicle accidents occurring on this resident's property. Existing boulders placed there previously are not effectively mitigating encroachment.
- 049-18. Evan Corrigan, to request that a section of Water Street be repaved.
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The meeting adjourned at 7:56 P.M.

  
Anna M. Farrell, Clerk

*City of Fitchburg,*.....